



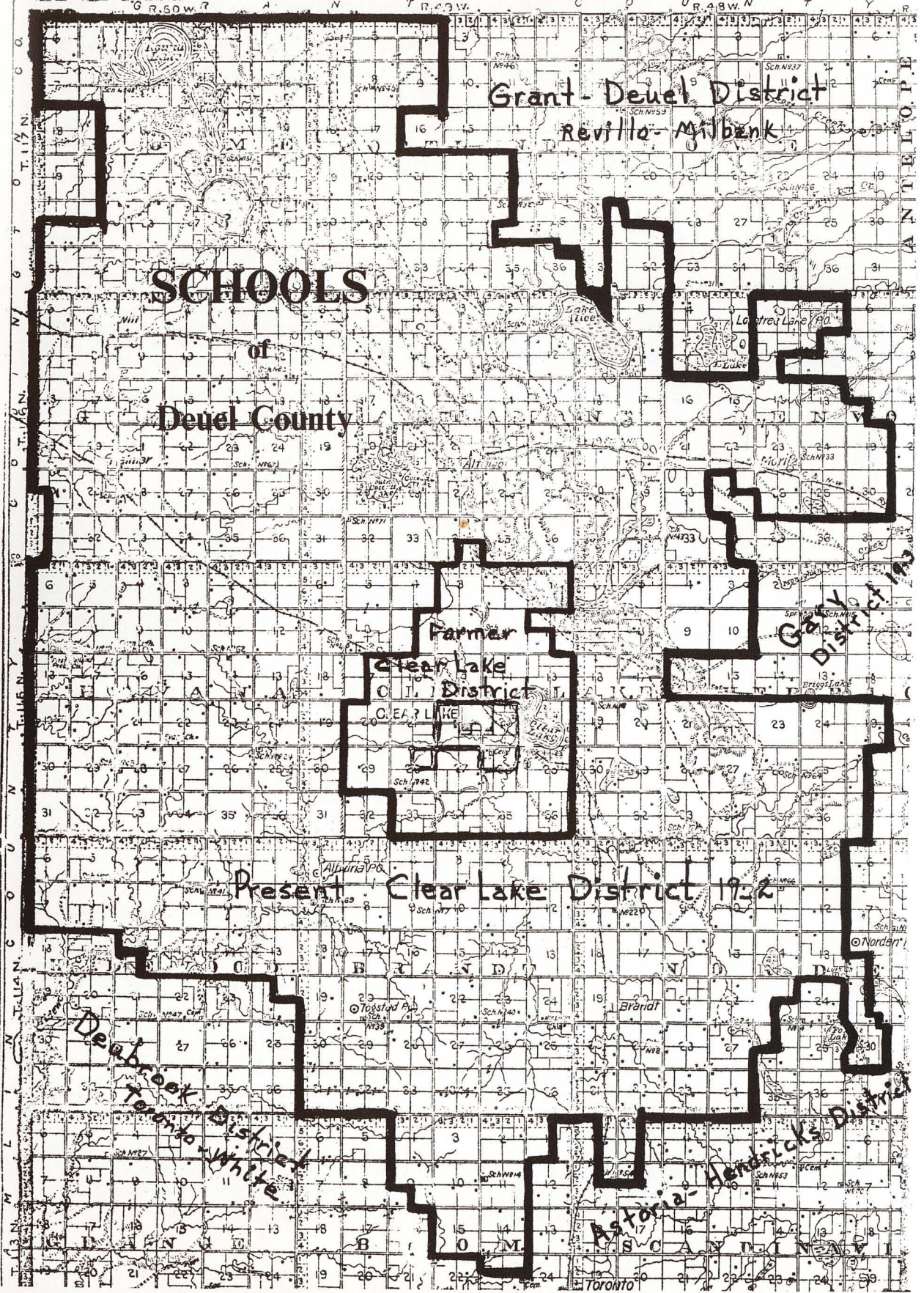
# HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

DEUEL COUNTY

- Wagon Roads
- Trails
- Farm Lines
- Section Lines
- School Houses
- Churches
- Same Owner over Line

# DEUEL COUNTY

SOUTH DAKOTA.



**SCHOOLS**

of

**Deuel County**

Grant-Deuel District

Reville-Milbank

Farmer

Clear Lake  
C. L. District

Gully District 1932

Present Clear Lake District 1932

Debrock-Toronto-White District

Astoria-Hendricks District

# TOWN SCHOOLS

## Astoria

School District 34 later became District 74 and now is #19. On January 18, 1886 a special meeting was held at Resmius Reinertson's farm and they agreed to build a schoolhouse for the cost of \$400.00. The District would include Sections 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35 and 36 in Scandinavia 113 Range 47 Deuel Dakota Territory. The schoolhouse was to be built in the center of section 26, size 18 by 20 by nine feet high.

In 1898, they decided to move the schoolhouse to the center of section 25.

To change from a shorter term, they voted for six months of school in 1899, and to pay the teachers \$25.00 per month.

In 1904 the schoolhouse was moved to the Astoria site and they added another 20 feet in length so its size became 40 by 18 by nine feet high.

In 1913 a two-story wooden building was built. One of the first teachers that taught at Astoria was Ida Iverson of Brookings, who became Mrs. Albert Hogie. A few more teachers were Miss Anna Larson of Hendricks, the Paulson sisters of Brandt, Mr. Quam and Julia Emerson of Toronto and Mabel Anderson of Estelline. In 1921 a new brick building was erected as a three-year high school. Sven Froiland of Dawson was superintendent, teacher, and coach for several years. In about 1932 Mr. and Mrs. Leif Fjellestad from Howard came to Astoria. Leif served the longest of the five superintendents in Astoria's history.

The basketball teams for the late 20's, 30' and 40's, even in the 50's were winning teams. Miss Hilmoe (Mrs. Levorsen) and Ruth Brown Fjellestad built up a fine music department.

The school lunch program was started early; the present cooks are Mrs. Vernon Landmark and Mrs. Marie Bergjord. In 1962 the newest addition was built, and in 1964 more than 500 people attended a reunion of high school alumni there. Pete Kruse, the flying farmer, brought several to school in his plane.

In time the district was enlarged because of the rural schools that closed. There was always great interest in athletics so the district bought the Astoria Auditorium from the American Legion Post. Commencement exercises filled it. A class of eighteen graduated in 1974 including an exchange student from Paris, France. But this was the last, for time has changed. For a few years some classes were taught and students were bussed to Hendricks for other classes, but the high school was closed in 1973 and students are now bussed to Hendricks, Minnesota for all classes. The grade school goes on under Mr. Norris Oerter as principal.

As a special tribute to the Astoria school, note can be made of the outstanding record of the music department — chorus, small ensembles and individual numbers. The music contest results were a majority of superior ratings.

The grade school is now departmentalized in grades three through eight. The present teachers are Mrs. Helen Gjere, science and social studies; Mrs. Esther Thompson, reading and English; Mr. D. Liden, math, physical education; and Mrs. Florence Miller, kindergarten, first and second grades. Mrs. Mary Peterson teaches vocal music two times a week. The instrumental music is taught by the band instructor, Mr. Allen Stewart, from Hendricks. Mrs. Barbara Daly also comes from Hendricks to teach remedial classes.

Mrs. Florence Miller was honored on her retirement at the close of the 1977 school year.



*Above: The Astoria Elementary School in 1977*

## Brandt

There was no school at Brandt when the E. J. Rose family moved here in 1897, with their three daughters, Florence, Lottie and Alice. They had to walk to District #8 located on the L. C. Kjenstad land, a distance of over two miles, where there were forty-one pupils enrolled. Peter J. Mellom was the teacher. The older boys would drop out of school in the spring as they were needed on the farms for field work.

School District #50 was organized in 1898 and the building completed in time for the first term which usually started in October. Gusta C. Bjerke was the first teacher. She was later elected County Superintendent of Schools.

"The school term was limited to six months for many years and it was difficult to complete eight grades in that length of time. Many of the pupils were sixteen or older before they had completed the course.

"The first county eighth grade graduation was held in Clear Lake with about fifty graduates."

The upper room of the Brandt School was finished in 1910 and Frances Marquis taught the upper grades and Helen Woolworth the lower grades. The present school building was finished in 1917 with Fred Orvedahl teaching Junior High, Sophia Dahlen the intermediate grades and Nellie Carton the primary grades.

The first high school graduating class was in 1923 with three graduates: Hazel Halverson, Helene Lindland and Edna Strand.

The recollections of 1945 will be interesting to many readers. Brandt did not have football, so organized a kitten ball team. Members were: David Vik, Clifton and Marlin Christopherson, Carol Braaten, John Elifson, Donald Zischke, Harlan Kjenstad, Adolph Andersen, Donald Strassburg, Blaine Engen, Maynard Thompson, Charles Bingham, Billy Jones, Thurston Squires, Gordon Mitchell, Donald Peterson, Donald Skow, Albert Schieber — nearly all of the high school boys. There was a short season — played Astoria twice; no other teams in the area had organized.

It was a custom to have one-act-plays each year. Each class presented one. The audience would cast their votes for the winner. In 1945 these plays were given: Freshmen winner, "Dress Reversal;" Sophomores, "Package for Ponsondy"; Juniors, "Jennie Knows;" and Seniors, "Everybody Happy."

Each year they had a carnival to raise money. It was well supported by the community and all had a lot of fun with the games and lunch. A king and queen were crowned each year.

Like other schools they had a Junior-Senior Banquet, school parties and initiation. The vocal music won many honors.

Due to financial problems Brandt High School closed down in 1947 and reopened about 1951. In 1977 it is consolidated with Clear Lake. The first six grades attend school in Brandt and the other students are bussed to Clear Lake.



Left: Brandt School District Number 50, 1902, Jennie Nelson, teacher.

Front row: Hannah Aaberg, Marie Nannestad, Oscar Aaberg, Ida Nannestad. Second: Martin Aaberg, Lila Halverson, Olga Knutson, Melvin Valle, Teddy Peterson, Carl Nannestad, Hebel Kjenstad, Alfred Halverson. Third: Arnold Thompson, Alfred Dahle, Elmer Paterdon, Jennie Nelson, Lottie Rose, Anna Aaberg, Henry McCaslin, Russell Dahle. Fourth: Mabel Morud, Florence Rose, Anna Kjenstad, Hannah Valle, Linnie Dahle, Selma Knutson, Judith Peterson, Alice Rose, Millie Kjenstad. Top Row: Ida Kjenstad, Anna Berger, Millie Wohler, Lena Kjenstad, Gina Johnson.

## Clear Lake District #19-2

Clear Lake School District Number 52 was organized in June 1885. Clarence E. Dean was elected Chairman; Ira H. Case, clerk, and John Auchampaugh, treasurer. In the summer and fall of 1885 the first school house was built and was ready for use October 12. An accompanying map shows the boundaries of the original school district.

The first teacher was Miss Florence Lawson of Sparta, Wisconsin. The one room on the south side and the upstairs of the old school building was used for an opera house, dance hall, County fair and as the first court room when the County Seat was brought over from Gary.

Both rooms of the old building downstairs were occupied for the first time in 1892. County Superintendent O. C. Dokken taught the higher classes and Miss Meda Prouty had charge of the primary. This year was the first time three teachers were employed: Miss Kathryn Ryalls, primary; Miss Meda Prouty, intermediate grades; and C. G. St. John. In 1899 regular grades were established and the first graduating class was held from the eight grades. The exercises were held in the opera house and consisted of orations, and class histories.

This class included Minnie Bremer, Arthur Dean, Claude and Blanche Force, Anna Penberthy, Grace Sanborn, Alice Shewell and Anna Inlagen.

The destinies of the school were presided over in 1900 and 1901 by Seth Teesdale.

"In the fall of 1901 Professor J. J. Hatteberg was installed as principal and remained for eight years. He left in 1909 to take the position at Clark, South Dakota but died soon after from a bursted appendix."

During Mr. Hatteberg's supervision, the school made its greatest progress.

It was at this time that the consolidated district was formed and the high school raised to a full four year course. In the fall of 1909 C. G. St. John was elected Superintendent and served for three years. In 1911 Clear Lake made its first exhibit at the State Fair and won first prize for general exhibit and 17 other prizes.

In 1912 St. John was elected County Superintendent and A. W. Munson took charge of the school for four years.

Superintendents since Munson have been J. E. Behnke, 1916-18; J. M. Stimson, 1918-20; E. S. Jordon, 1920-22; E. L. Horton, 1922-24; Mrs. Myra Gaumnitz, 1924-29; G. Froiland, 1929-1964; Orville A. Schuck, July 1, 1964 to July 1, 1971; Frank C. Blaine, July 1, 1971 to 1977. Many improvements were made in the educational process as well as the physical structure of our school while Mr. Blaine was the superintendent.

A group of teachers who served under Superintendent S. G. Froiland in the Clear Lake School from 1935 until 1942 have kept in close contact all through the years through a round-robin correspondence. Those teachers are: Ruth Howell Madsen — taught second grade nine years. Olive Danielson Boersma — seventh grade 1935 to 1941. Frances Clifford Smith — first grade 1935 to 1938. Mildred Steele Harrington — commercial and math 1937 to 1942. Dorothy Whittemore Goose — fifth grade 1935 to 1938. Elane Janssen McCarriar — home economics 1936-1939. Isabelle Grigg Oswald — fourth grade 1935 to 1940. Katherine M. Torgerson — English and Latin, director of vocal music, 1935 to 1942. Clara



Clear Lake School 1977

# Clear Lake ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT

High School Auditorium, May 23, 1923.  
8:00 O'clock P. M.

Music .....	School Band
March .....	Lucile Huntington
Invocation .....	Mrs. Olive Wilson
Salutatory .....	Jessica E. Vought
"No Thorns No Roses".....	Thelma L. Gardner
Rustic Chit Chat.....	Mable E. Kowalke
Class Prophecy.....	Viola H. Kreger
"Address To Undergraduates".....	Leon Dale Pierce
Music .....	School Band
"Duty".....	Jennie H. Dudden
Class Poem .....	Beatrice C. Fischer
Golden Youth .....	{ Viola H. Kreger
	{ Laura I. Weisel
"White Wash".....	Julia M. Johnson
Valedictory .....	Margaret C. Walseth
Presentation of Scholarships.....	Supt. E. L. Horton
Presentation of Diplomas.....	Mrs. A. F. Ramharter
Benediction .....	Mrs. Olive Wilson

## CLASS ROLL

Development of Radio.....	Glen F. Angle
Thrift .....	Mary A. Atyeo
Klu Klux Klan .....	Donald K. Davison
Duty .....	Jennie H. Dudden
Class Poem .....	Beatrice C. Fischer
No Thorns, No Roses.....	Thelma L. Gardner
Expression .....	Clarence M. Grindager
Last Will And Testament.....	Thresa Hoitsma
White Wash .....	Julia M. Johnson
Friendship .....	H. Sarah Kohnke
Service .....	Mable E. Kowalke
True Nobility .....	Roy W. Kowalke
Class Prophecy .....	Viola H. Kreger
Work .....	Lee L. Loerch
Punctuality .....	Edgar E. Neuman
Honesty .....	Leo J. O'Hara
Address To Undergraduates .....	Leon Dale Pierce
Optimism .....	Velma M. Taylor
Salutatory .....	Jessica E. Vought
Valedictory .....	Margaret C. Walseth
Ambition .....	Laura I. Weisel
Opportunity .....	Marion O. Woolworth
Character .....	Luella M. Yahn



*Above: First Graduating Class of Clear Lake High School  
Front Row: Minnie Bremer, Anna Pemberthy, Alice Shewell, Grace Sanborn, Anna Inlagen, Blanch Force. Back row: Claude Force, Arthur Dean 1905-1906*

Solem Froiland — Volunteer school nurse from 1931 and on.

Many will remember "Prof" Froiland Day" on Sunday, April 25, 1954 when more than 700 people gathered at the auditorium to honor Superintendent S. G. Froiland upon completion of 25 years of service to our school. He was given a commemorative clock and a \$500. bond by his students, teachers, friends, and relatives.

The construction of a new \$150,000 city-school auditorium was completed in 1952. Clear Lake Independent District #52 became Independent School District #76 on July 1, 1958. The National Guard addition to the auditorium was completed in about 1962.

In 1968 and 1969, an addition was built to the school which included the following: ten new grade school classrooms, a band room, a vocal music classroom, a home economics department in one unit, a kindergarten room, a grade school library, storage rooms, a girls' locker room, a shop building, and a kitchen and dining room.

In November 1974, the administrative addition was completed which included the following: Superintendent's office, business manager's office, conference room, reception area, classroom and a storage area.

Personnel that have contributed years of service to the Clear Lake School are: former teachers Hanorah Gilligan, elementary principal and teacher; Mildred Monnier Woods, second grade; Lillian Schiefelbein, English; Gladys Johnston (Deceased), Home Economics; Ardis Neville, third grade. Presently teaching are: Jack Earley, band director; Ruth Kreger, fourth grade; Elda Rae Jensen, kindergarten teacher.

The 1977 class of 78 is the largest graduating class in the Clear Lake history.

Independent District #76 became District 19-2 July 1, 1976. A map on page 92 shows the size of Clear Lake District at the present time.

*Below: School bus in winter*

*Left: Mr. Froiland — Thirty years as Superintendent*





M. Kjenstad



J. Toering



W. Allen



P. LeSaere



L. R. Sare



L. Loeche



R. Kramic



G. Niemann



K. McKee



P. Friber



J. Harms



P. Peil



S. Munchahl



P. Peterson



C. Schmakl



J. Dumlavy



F. McDaniel



J. Harle



D. Nielsen



M. Jensen



K. Kluckmark



M. Wilson



J. Brandt



A. Lindquist



W. Kayl, V. Pres.



R. Moore, Pres.



L. Vik



C. Erek



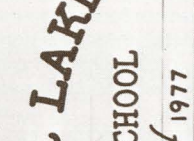
J. Carlomerson



J. Booms



Julie Hanson Sec. Tr.



J. Propst



K. Kraas



C. Nord



R. Nilson



J. Paarloman



J. Esche



K. Johnson



M. Jorvig



P. Brandt



L. Sahlstein



R. Novy



J. Konold



P. Novy



J. Novy



A. Holtzer



E. Thomas



S. Law



K. Wiesner



J. Sherman



R. Novy



Vebra Macy



L. Sahlstein



J. Hanson



D. Boblitz



P. Novy



J. Konold



A. Holtzer



E. Thomas



D. Shay



T. Swenson



K. Coddard



K. Weber



K. Harack



S. Farlie



K. Strassburg



D. Uckert



L. Lindner



P. Mursck



K. Dumlavy



K. Monner



K. Strassburg



# CLEAR LAKE HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1977

## Clear Lake School (concluded)

"Memories are hard to put on paper but to the many that read this, you have encountered the events that have caused the educational system in Clear Lake to be continually progressive.

"Having been for the past 14 years identified with the Clear Lake Schools, I have had an opportunity to note progress. The student enrollment is over 700 and under the charge of about 40 teachers. May we continually strive to provide quality education in the Clear Lake School." Marla A. Johnson, Librarian

## Gary School

The Gary Public School organized, and began meeting in rooms above the stores until the first building, a fine two-story wooden structure was ready in 1879. The school sat just west of the creek on the site of the old Jack Nilssen house. The upper grades were upstairs and the lower, down stairs. Cummings Merrill was the first principal. This was the first school house built in Deuel County.

The school term ran three to five or even ten months. Grades were divided only into upper and lower. Although there actually was not a high school, the advanced subjects were taught. Gary School had a very good reputation and it was not unusual for people to come from Watertown, Canby, and other surrounding towns to attend school.

Since there were no country schools and only a few were organizing, students were brought into the Gary School. It soon became too small, and classes were again held in other rooms, above stores and any other available space.

In 1902 the intermediate grades met separately in the Odd Fellows Hall. Ben Jensen, who attended school at the first Nilssen site said the students liked this location as it was right beside the creek; there were many trees, and the old wooden railroad trestle was just across the street. If the boys could get out of the teacher's sight they would climb and crawl on the trestle. By tying a rope on the old

railroad windmill, the boys would swing.

The first brick building on the hill (site of present building) was ready for classes late in 1903. It was the west half of the old, present building and it cost \$2000. The bell rang calling the students to school the first week in January 1904.

The local militia used the old school building for an armory until 1907 when it was torn down for the lumber and a house built.

In 1918, the east half of the building, the downstairs gymnasium and the present front entrance were built. That gymnasium was considered one of the better basketball courts because of its high ceiling.

While Maynard Cochrane was superintendent another building project was undertaken. Due to the high costs, it was decided to use volunteer labor for as much of the building as possible. The district hired a foreman, two brick layers, and a mudmixer. The men of the community were divided into two groups, the country and the town, and each group into six teams with a captain for each working day of the week. The captain would arrange to have his men working one day or evening a week. The women were also organized and their job consisted of serving lunches to the working men.

This building houses an auditorium-gymnasium with ample seating space, two new classrooms, a kitchen-dining area, a large stage, lobby, dressing rooms, storage rooms, and a band office. It is a good building and cost only a fraction of the amount of most buildings comparable to it. It was completed in the fall of 1957. The first Gary basket ball team to play on the new floor was composed of Dennis Cole, Dennis Gross, Gus VanSteenberg, Lester Lorenzen, Alan Cochrane and Buck Dessler.

About 7000 hours of volunteer labor were donated. Many alumni not in the area donated money to help build the auditorium. The "Voice of America" came from New York City to interview Dr. Cochrane and his captains and to make a tape to be used in programs overseas.

*Gary School, 1957, Addition in progress.*



## Gary

With the addition of the new building, Gary could now host tournaments and band clinics as well as large civic events.

In 1976 another addition was built to the north of the old building. This addition houses industrial arts, music, and another classroom. It is much needed space for the ever expanding curriculum.

Many Gary Alumni have come back to their alma mater to teach and for several years it was not uncommon to have four or five alumni teaching. The following have taught several years: Lawrence Asher, Doris Runge Bailey, Superintendent Maynard Cochrane, Eleanor Dougherty Cochrane, Joan Cole, Cornelia Cole, Mary Harkins Gordon, Alice Larson Knopp, Karen Limberg Keimig, Margaret Sanden Olsen, Roger Peterson, William Taylor, and Rachael Rupp Westgard. Mrs. Mary Gordon and Lawrence Asher deserve special mention for having served longer than any other teachers.

The present superintendent is Robert Martin. This is his seventh year. There are 17 teachers on the staff in 1977 and the enrollment in high school in 58, in grade school 129.

Over the years the Gary school has taken many honors in music (large and small groups), in athletics, declam, newspaper, annual and dramatics. This is possible only through an understanding board of education, community, and dedicated teachers.

### Gary Interstate, April, 1927

The orchestra is practicing every night this week for the contest which will take place next week. Besides the orchestra, five soloists will represent Gary: Henry Sweeter (clarinet), Ralph Allison (flute), Alice Larson (Saxophone), Bernard Schulte (violin), Margaret Cochrane (cello).

Miss Gladys Woodbury will be the accompanist throughout, and Robert Drew, the efficient teacher, is the director. Everyone should plan to be there April 21 and 22.

### Below: Sophomore Class 1941

**Front row:** Laverne Johnson, Peggy Grotjohn, Lorraine Wells, Wilma Gordon, Ruth Sanden, Jewyll Mortensen, Myrtle Johnson, Doris Nuteson, Gertrude Walter, Mary McLain. **Back row:** Clifford Carlson, Maurice Goblirsch, Rudolph Meyers, Harry Olsen, Kenneth Potthoff, Donald Eng, Mr. Miles, Kenneth Hinsvark, Melvin Simonton, Wendell Peden, Loren Severson, Jack Wolsky.



**Above: Coach George Smith and his ball team. Gene Schulte, Butch Lynde, Darwin Hunt, Bruce Stangeland and David Cochrane. 1960**

## THE ORCHESTRA



### The Gary Orchestra

The Gary High School Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Wylie, made several appearances during the year. The personnel of this organization includes:

First Violins—Frederick Simonton, Shirley Shepherd, Lauren Dunn and Muriel Eng.	Trombone—Jackie Pinard. Oboe—Edwin Dougherty.
Second Violins—Wendell Peden, John Cole and Eleanor Stangeland.	Bassoon—Raymond Dougherty. Flute—Dorothy Stone.
First Trumpet—Kenneth Cochrane.	Cello—Marcella Ness.
Second Trumpet—Donald Eng and Donald Nelson.	Viola—Betty McLain.
Clarinet—Mary Ann Miller.	Bass—Dorothy Linn.
Saxophone—Frances Carlson.	Piano—Vivian Peden.
	Typani—Jewyll Mortensen.
	Drums—Bobby Eng

### 1940 REGIONAL MUSIC CONTEST AWARDS

The Gary high school was represented at the state regional music contest held at Brookings, May 18 and 19th, by the following entries and selections:

Orchestra—"Minuet and Trio," by Woodhouse; "Radoocz March," Hungarian Medley; "Chorale-Fugue," by Bach.

Glee Club—"The Lass With the Delicate Air," by Arne; "Night Song," by Clokey.

Girls' Trio—"Hark, Hark a Lark," by Shubert; "The Sandman," by Brahms.

Violin Solo by Frederick Simonton—"Arioso," by Bach.

Trumpet Solo by Kenneth Cochrane—"By the Shores of the Mighty Pacific," by Clark.

Tenor Solo by Kenneth Cochrane—"Where 'ere You Walk," by Handel.

The Orchestra received a Superior rating, giving the Gary school orchestra state honors for the ninth consecutive year. Kenneth Cochrane's vocal solo received a Superior rating; the Glee Club, Girls' Trio, Frederick Simonton's violin solo and Kenneth Cochrane's trumpet solo, all received an Excellent rating.

Kenneth Cochrane, tenor soloist, entered the national regional contest held at St. Paul on May 17-18-19th, Gary's first entrant in out of state competition.





## Goodwin School

On April 28, 1879, the first meeting of School District #3 was held in Goodwin, Deuel County, Dakota Territory. The following officers were elected: W. C. Kelsey, director; D. D. Bathrick, clerk; D. N. Lake, treasurer. These new officers were appointed to receive proposals for a location for a school building. They also levied a one percent tax for a school building, one an one-half percent for a teacher's fund and one-half percent for a contingent fund.

The first Goodwin school house was built at a cost of \$2500.00. This building was a two-story frame structure and was located across the road from what is now the Arnold Benson home. The school house was on land donated to the school district by the Winona and St. Peter Railroad. The present Goodwin school is brick and was built in 1915 at a cost of \$8200.00.

In 1921 Goodwin had an accredited one-year high school; in 1922, a two-year; and in 1923, a three year accredited high school. In 1926, the Goodwin High School graduated three students; namely, Everett Raschke, Helen Gerberding, and Herbert Spooner. Another class graduated in 1929, and then from 1935 to 1960, Goodwin had 25 consecutive graduating classes.

In 1890 the average monthly cost per pupil of operating was \$1.04. The total school income was \$641.49. The school curriculum included reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, geography, grammar, history, physiology, and hygiene. The first teacher was L. A.

*Below: Old Goodwin school house*



### *Goodwin School 1913-1914*

*Back row: Mr. Weaver (upper grades teacher), Herman Appelhoj, John Hulscher, John Jellesma, Emil Geziewski, Mayme Devinney, Matt Starkin, Albert Geziewski, Ray Lippert, Bill Gerberding, Fred Ploof, Amanda Gerberding, Ada Storm, Hildegard Kranz, Helen Anderson, Sibyl Fulton, Lillian Peterson, Isabelle Kliegle, Susie Ploof, Emma Kleveter, Shirley (Arthur) Raschke, teacher. Second row: Frank Hulscher, William Roseland, Ted (Ernest) Peterson, Carl Kranz, Frank Lenzmeier, Emil Lassig, John Kranz, Arthur Kleveter, Frank Appelhoj, Benny Ploof, Laura Starkin, Anna Gezieski, Ruth Stanwood, Kate Appelhoj, Martha Ploof, Kate Hulscher, Grace Hick, Ella Jellesma Third row: Murriel Hebal, Genevive Goddard. Front row: Eddie Ploof, Joe Hulscher, Roy Kohler, August Geziewski, (not identified), Lee Goddard, Laura Goodrich, Mildred Goddard, Grace Starkin, Gladys Peterson, Ethel Geziewski, Lillian Larson, Mary Kleveter, Susan Hanten, Marie Kohler, Lucille Hick, Pete Appelhoj, Leo Kranz, Theodore Hick, Vernon Ploof*

Gaylord who received a salary of \$25.00 a month. There were 34 students enrolled for that first school term that began September 8, 1879.

In May, 1921, petitions were filed to have an election to consolidate Goodwin School District #3 and Rome School District #26. In June the first election was held and 70 votes were cast for consolidation and 41 against. On June 21, 1921, a special school board election was held for the newly consolidated Goodwin School #3. The members elected were Charles Dahl, Gust Peterson, George Gardner, Ben West, George Dorman, Joseph Freed, clerk, and Ezra West, treasurer.

While Goodwin operated the high school, five teachers were employed each year by the district including a superintendent. The school year 1959-1960 marked the end of the high school. Mr. Forrest Markve, superintendent, Mr. Clifford Walsh, and Mrs. Jacquin Skogmo all taught the high school students while Meryl Ulven taught grades five through eight and Letha Koob taught grades one through four. Some other principals and superintendents were G. H. Washburn, Leonard Hiebel, P. B. McCrillis, Barbara Finley, J. A. Fenlon, H. J. McCabe, L. E. Cattrell, C.C. Hoffman, L. L. Weidemann, Gale Finley, W. R. Huff and O.L. Markeseth.

After 1960 Goodwin continued to operate the school for grades one - eight and kindergarten until the School Reorganization Act went into effect in 1970. At that time the Goodwin District #3 went under the Clear Lake Independent District. The grades still remain in Goodwin.

### Moritz School District (concluded)

Early day pupils carried their lunches in syrup pails. They didn't appreciate the plain bread and butter sandwiches without a drink to go with it. Dinner pails were kept in the cloakroom, but they were brought inside during cold weather. Later, thermos bottles could be purchased and either hot or cold beverages could be brought from home.

When telephone lines were strung in the Moritz area and patrons of the school district had phones, a phone was installed in the school house.

Through the years the school was updated; but in 1963 there was talk of consolidation. The last term, 1964-1965, was taught by Mrs. Dorothy Monson who had an enrollment of seven pupils.

In June, 1965, the school was closed. The building was bought by Glenwood Township to be used as a town hall.

by Mrs. Alice Hartsell

## Spring Dell School District #36



The County Superintendent, C. R. Westcott, formed School District #36 upon a petition of B. J. Cochrane and seven others, in the county of Deuel, Territory of Dakota, in 1882. The first meeting was held at the home of Sydney Oliver. First officers were: B. J. Cochrane, temporary chairman; C. C. Robinson, clerk; O. J. Oliver, director; B. J. Cochrane, treasurer.

A site was chosen for the school house and the decision was made that it be 14 by 16 feet and 8 feet high. It was decided to levy a tax of one percent for the purpose of paying interest on school district bonds, a tax of one and a half percent for teacher's wages, with a tax of one half percent for contingent fund.

In 1885 it was decided to have five months of school, B. J. Cochrane was to furnish the wood for \$6. In 1887 it was moved that a coal stove be gotten, providing they would get trusted for the bill — failed to get trusted.

In 1888 six months of school were held in the home of B. J. Cochrane and he furnished the room and stove free of charge.

In 1910 problems arose over the distance of some of the students from the school house and the county superintendent and the board met to discuss the question. After lengthy debate, a special meeting and a vote resolved the issue. There were 18 votes in favor of moving the school house and 16 against. The school house was moved to a site one mile east.

In 1912 a ninth grade was added along with a nine month term of school. The enrollment for this term had peaked at 35 pupils.

Again came the need for a bigger and better school house, one with two rooms. L. R. Otterdale was hired to build and furnish the materials at a cost of \$1680.00.

Two teachers were hired and subjects were offered through the tenth grade. Those first teachers in the new (present) building were Alma Aamold and Marie Ostrout. At one time there were 53 pupils in the two rooms. The upper room had grades six through ten.

It was about the time of the term of 1913-1914 that a teacher had a contest for a name for the school and Louis Severson's entry "Spring Dell" was chosen, named for the spring down in the dell north of the school house. Those hills around the school house offered some of the best coasting in the area, and the south slough was always there for ice skating.

Now to relate some personal stories about school days at Spring Dell.

There is the story of a teacher who could not handle the pupils. One day they took her chair down to the ravine. The kids even walked on top of the desks to class. She had to be replaced by a man teacher. He came in to have discipline. The first day he showed the kids what a good shot he was and laid the revolver on his desk. He had discipline!

Also in the earlier days there was an east-west feud. The kids even tried lynching one another out in the barn, or so the story goes.

It must have been tough for some children when they heard only Norwegian or Swedish at home. One teacher in her remarks said of the children of a family, that they were poor in reading because they insisted upon studying in their own language at home. But the father in that home also learned to read English by sitting up until midnight reading the children's school books.

Evadna Cochrane Burba tells this story: "Mr. Kendrick was my seventh grade teacher; he was so handsome I think all of us girls were secretly in love with him. During his year, a terrible blizzard blew up in the afternoon. Only the Udesens got home; their father happened to be driving by about the time the storm struck and his children were dismissed to ride home with him. The rest of us had to spend the night. We formed a human chain to plow through drifts to the Kendrick's house for supper. There were almost 40 of us in the two rooms at that time. Poor Lois Kendrick must have scraped the bottom of the barrel to feed us. After supper the boys and Mr. Kendrick went to spend the night in the school house; the girls stayed at his home. I remember five of us slept across one of the beds and that we had pancakes for breakfast. The boys ate what was left in dinnerpails for their breakfast. Fortunately the day dawned bright and clear and although we couldn't see the Kendrick barn (the place just west of the present school building) from the house because of drifts, our parents one by one came to take us home."

There was one young man who taught who had just one session of Summer School training and he could not handle the children. They tied him up a time or two so they could have a longer noon or recess. They snowballed him 'til his clothing was wet. They even made bows and arrows from twigs, string, and used nails for arrow points and shot at him.

Seventy teachers taught in Spring Dell in its 85 year history.

After the new school house was built, two teachers were hired beginning with the 1916-1917 term through the 1927-1928 term. Classes were held in each of the two rooms. The upper grades were similar to present day Junior-High with some high school subjects taught.

There were three ladies, namely, Esther Paulson (Solberg), Viola Carton (Thorpe) and Marie Severson (Lunde) who were pupils at Spring Dell and later returned to teach school there.

Also of interest is the fact that two mothers and two daughters taught at Spring Dell, Maud Troupe and her daughter Viola Carton (Thorpe) and Alta Risdahl (Severson) and her daughter Lavonne Severson.

Helene Granner has the record of teaching the longest — eleven terms, from 1954 to 1965.

At the beginning the teacher's salaries were as low as \$25.00 per month. In 1966-1967, the last year the school was in session, Lyndon Hoseck received the highest salary paid — \$255.00 — and only had four pupils to teach. Changing times!

The teachers at Springdell were Fannie Stanley, Alice Walker, Mary Bower, Emma Gamble, Agnes Cochrane, Vina Bixby, June Oliver, Gustey Reyerson, Gertie Barlow, Frances Herrick, Mina McGilvia, Emma Wells, Pearl Hopkins, Allice Jennings, Maud Troupe, Daisy Kerr, Joy Knight, Anna Eggen, Lena Herrick, Ida Paulson, Hattie Wells, Bessie Bradley, S. Shelstad, Emma Fuller, Florence Paulson, Clara Iverson, Agnes McGill, C. Hinsvark, Emma Larson, J. Hinsvark, Alice Bentley, Ruth Pate, Mathilda

These families were in dire need of a place to hold school and Sunday school as soon as they could get a cover over their heads. Their only schooling was carried on in the homes by parents or older members of the family.

The voters met in the Erwin Gorton home April, 1880, following a notice from County Superintendent C.R. Westcott to form School District #13. At this meeting the first school board was elected: John C. Cole, Dave Patterson, and E.J. Gorton. Mr. Gorton offered land from his timber claim to be used for school purposes and the offer was gladly accepted. It was also voted at this meeting to charge out of district pupils \$1 each month in advance. They voted to build a structure 16 by 16 feet by eight feet high, cost was to be \$86. Later paper and siding were put on and a cover over the door.

Typical of school at this time were the two terms., one in the spring and the other in the fall. The lunches were carried in syrup pails and usually the school room was hard to heat; the teacher was the janitor plus all her other duties. One fall they even had to borrow a stove.

In 1884 ten double seats and a teacher's desk were purchased. In 1888 they bought a new stove for \$20. Minutes show that the board authorized a salary of \$5 more per month for a man teacher, than a woman teacher. At one time the treasurer left and took the money with him (\$12.50). It cost \$3.50 to have the officer collect it.

There was much discussion in the late 80's to build a new and larger school. At that time Ann Cole was chairman of the board (she was the one and only woman to be on the school board, ever). They voted to bond for \$500. One acre of land was bought from Wm. Keeler for \$20 on the northwest corner of the farm now owned by Mrs. Irving Heaton. The new school was 18 by 24 and ten feet high, cost \$398. It opened in September, 1901.

In 1914 the district was divided, District #42, north and west was built. The coal shed from the first school was moved and joined to the east end of the new building and the old building was sold to Harley Cole, where the Charles Woolerys now live.

Sunday school was held in the school until Antelope Valley Methodist Church was built.

P.T.A. was started when Mary Harkins Gordon taught. Mrs. Wells Cole was the first president. Olive Kluckman Kenyon was the first teacher to hold a First Grade Certificate, in 1926.

Some of the board members include J.C. Cole, his son Harley, his grandson Wells; E.G. Sherburne, his son Arthur; William Goos, his grandson, Loren; and C.D. Limberg, and his son, Milton.

There were but four pupils in 1958, with Dorothy Jensen as teacher. In May 1963 the district consolidated with Grant-Deuel at Revillo. The south half of the district consolidated with Gary. An auction was held, books were sold, even the large bell from the top of the school house. Willie Phillips purchased the school.

Thus 77 years of learning in District #13 came to an end. During that time there were 77 teachers. It is believed to be the first rural school in Deuel County in 1880.

by Mrs. Bertha (Wells) Cole

## Roosevelt School District #14



School District #14 has been a landmark from 1884 to 1972. It is located in Blom Township, Deuel County and has been known by various names, the Carlson school, the Ensberg school and finally as Roosevelt School. It is ten miles south of Clear Lake.

The district had its first meeting at the home of M. Johnson in April, 1882. School board officers chosen were Syver Ensberg, A.C. Berg, H. Mathison, Ole Carlson, and M. Johnson. Each gave one-half acre of land for a schoolhouse lot at the east quarter of Section 10, Township 113, Range 49.

Before a building could be built, a room was rented at the home of Ole Carlson for a period of one year (two months). The new building was constructed in 1884.

At the 1885 annual meeting, a motion was resolved that a tax of eight mills was to be raised for school purposes for the coming year; four mills for the teacher's fund and four mills for a special fund. A.C. Berg was the clerk.

In 1904 motion was made and carried to build a new school house with basement on its present location. The total amount paid for the building and site was \$1214.

In 1930 a fire broke out that completely burned the building. The pupils were transported to the church three miles west of Toronto for that term. That September it was decided to build a new brick school house. It has two rooms and proved to be a modern and progressive school for over thirty years.

Roosevelt closed its doors in May 1966 with the district divided between Clear Lake and Toronto. The building still stands and is used as a polling place for voters of Blom Township.

Some of the teachers were Tilla Hanson, Alice Sanborn, Anna Bjerke, Mary Rainey, Lena Mathison, Alice and Bessie Levins, Mary Druely, Ruth Brevik, Edith Olson, Doris McMath, Muriel Barber, Ardis Neville, and Mrs. Maynard Kastein.

## Bemis School District #17

The Bemis school had its beginning in a home, now occupied by Wes and Cindy Buyert, one-half mile east of Bemis. In 1908 a big two-story structure was built south of Bemis. The land was bought from Mr. Ballantine. In 1927 another building was brought in from Charlie Zerfass' lumber yard. This was later used as the Barthorpe school and was purchased by Quentin Rhody. This building was placed east of the big school house to accommodate over one hundred pupils who were attending in District #17. Grade nine was also available here for quite a few years.

Selden Washburn dug the well on the grounds in 1908. He tells of John Schreur Sr. as being one of the carpenters.

The school records were burned in an elevator fire years ago. They were in the safe at the time.

The teachers were (beginning with the first) Jessie Biveridge, C. Tyler, Lotie Gaylord, A. Draeger, Katie Dolan, D. and T. Green, Mazie Weeks, Alice Parker, M. Dolan, Will Irwin, Warren Sutton, Isabelle, Margaret, and Grace Towey, Clara Van Gronigen, Blanche Goddard, Hattie Washburn, W. Parish, Lucy Polley, Mollie and Grace Mitchell, Hattie Rankins, Rex Lindsay, Ida Paulson, Etienne Nellie, Florence Bronich, Bessie Levins, John and Irene Doyle, Ruth and Mary Atyeo, Julia Nufer, Madelyn Warner, Marie Mahowald, Margaret Baugh, Mildred Johnson, Loetta Hampton, Clara Hoff, Francis Hauger, Gertrude Schleuter, Mildred Takson, Mary Lu Johnson, Anna Galvin, Verna Wartenbee, Alice Wilson, Dorothy Ruesink, Berdyne Halse, Patty Grothaus, Virgil Djonne, Bessie Weels, and Helen Sharp.

Many of these teachers also served on the school board in later years.



*Goodwin School grades 5-8 1920*

*Teacher, Clifford Salsor.*

*Pupils standing: Edith Peterson, Mamie Raschke, Martha Frahm, Ray Kranz, Alma Kleveter, Helen Gerberding, Arnold Dorman, Robert Richard (Everett Raschke absent)*

*Middle: Lloyd Johnson, Genevive Goddard, Mildred Goddard, Pete Appelhoj, Marie Schrader*

*Front: James Roseland, Lucille Hick, Susanna Hanten, Berniece Lassig, Herbert Spooner and Joe Hulscher*

## Goodwin (concluded)

The last teachers hired by District #3 were Mrs. Mamie Heyn, Mrs. Lilace Kastein, and Mrs. Cheri Siegfried. Currently there are 36 students enrolled in grades one through eight at Goodwin. Mrs. Shirley Larson is employed as the teacher's aide and Mrs. Sophie Rabine is the school cook. The janitors are Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Miller.

Goodwin District has had many faithful employees over the years. Some of those who have prepared meals for the students include Mrs. Dorothy Nelson, Mrs. Lloyd Johnson, Lily Olson, Marg Hamann, Mrs. Killie Raml, Fanny Ruesink, Mrs. Pauline Stevanus and Ada Sherman. Some of the

janitors were "Grandpa" Peterson, August Berg; Killie Raml, Carroll Kranz, Harlan Lassig, Paul Siegfried, Arnold Benson, Mrs. Ferdie Stevenson, Bill Hoff, Jim Heyne, George Crocker, Coye Bren, Killie Raml, and Robert Kliegle.

## Toronto School



*Toronto School, built in 1900 — torn down in 1975*

Three schools have been built in Toronto since the town was founded. The first school was built in 1886. Pete Tobia was the instructor. The building was erected on the lots just north of the present Blom Prairie Church, the site of the present park. It was moved to its present location one block south of main street and was used for many years as the fire hall. As the town grew in population this school house was much too small. In March, 1902, 100 persons gathered to discuss the issue and decided that a new school house should be built. The foundation and basement of the school was laid by Chris Tomli. The foundation was all stone. Mr. Tomli also did all of the wall plastering. For the complete job he received \$300.00 and the men working for him received 75¢ each for one day's work. The school house was of wood construction and cost a total of \$6017.17. The school board had done their work well and had saved the district every cent that could possibly be saved. All the modern sanitary improvements were in the building and it was heated throughout by steam heat.

C. G. St. John was recognized as the first Superintendent for the Toronto Public School. He started teaching in September 1901, about the time that President McKinley was shot. He taught about a year and a half in the old building and started in the new building in January, 1903. He graduated the first organized class in May. In September of 1903 he added a ninth grade, the first high school classes taught in Toronto. Mr. St. John resigned in 1904 to go back to farming and in 1907 went back to teaching in Toronto. He graduated a class from the tenth grade in the spring of 1909. Other early teachers were: Inga Dahl, primary grades; Tilla Thompson, intermediate grades; Flora Thompson, grammar grades. Grace Sanborn (Mrs. E. E. Walseth of Clear Lake) also taught one or two years. Miss Cora Thompson was a primary grade teacher for many years.

To bring about better relationships between the parents and teachers, the Parent-Teacher Association was organized in the fall of 1920. This organization has remained very active through the years, striving always to improve the quality of education for the community young people. The Music Parents spearheaded a drive for new uniforms for the Deubrook Band, among other ventures.



*Above: Toronto Elementary-1977*

Through the years the Toronto Vikings were a force to reckon with in basketball, and brought home many trophies. The team coached by Howard O. Torgerson in 1939 won the coveted District 10 championship and advanced to the regional tourney by defeating a tough Clear Lake team by the score of 22 to 20. It was Perwin Thune, center for the Vikes, who dropped in the winning basket. Others on the team that year were Evan Girton, Morris Eastman, Quentin Nelson, Glen Thune, Clifford "Swede" Ensberg, Daniel Mathison and DeLoss Finsand.

In 1958 work was begun on a new elementary school building, with dedication taking place on February 22, 1959. Of brick exterior, the \$104,000.00 building is of contemporary design, fire, and sound proof. It contains five class rooms, a multi-purpose room and kitchen, rest rooms, superintendent's office, and storage space. In 1975 an addition was added to the school, with three classrooms, dining hall-auditorium combination, locker rooms, teachers' work-room and storage space.

In 1966, after long reorganization procedures, the school systems of Toronto and White joined together to form the Deubrook School District 12-4. Since that time, the classes kindergarten through sixth grade have been in Toronto, with the Junior and Senior High departments meeting in White.

The last few years have seen many accolades come to the Deubrook music department, under the able direction of Jerry Kramer. They have been constant winners at the district contest level, being tops in performance every year. Besides being a part of Memorial Day observances in the communities, they have participated in Teepee Days at Sioux Falls College and have marched at the Brookings Hobo Day.

In 1977 there are approximately 200 students enrolled at White, and about 185 at Toronto. The school system employs 27 teachers. Superintendent for the past 10 years has been Robert Glines, with Lee Oschner serving as high school principal and Mrs. James Mitchell the elementary principal.

In 1976-1977 Deubrook joined the East-Central Multi-District Vocational-Education system, with about 25 students involved. With five subjects offered, the courses included "on the job" training and visitation of facilities in Brookings. It is a new concept of schooling that was met enthusiastically by the students.

## RURAL SCHOOLS of Deuel County

Miss Anne Marie Holen



It is fitting that we give honor, on these school pages, to one who has served education so long.

Miss Anne Marie Holen died on February 19, 1962. She had served as Superintendent of Deuel County Schools for twenty-one years. Her teaching experience included service in rural schools of Deuel and Brookings County, and in both Sinai and Clear Lake.

Miss Holen was born in Deuel County and attended school here before furthering her education at Augustana and Southern State Teachers College. She also attended summer sessions at Columbus College, Sioux Falls, and General Beadle State College at Madison, South Dakota.

A tribute written by a young man of Clear Lake, states, "Maria Holen was very likely the best known, most respected and loved person in Deuel County. She always had time for problems of teachers and pupils under her supervision. She had the biggest heart in the country, a heart of pure gold. She was a kind friend of all."

Maria was also honored by county teachers and friends at an annual Eighth Grade Graduation Exercise. She was presented with a Treasure Chest, which contained money and a scroll with the donors names. This was a token of good will and appreciation for the many deeds done so well "beyond the call of duty."

### District #2

School District #2 was organized April 30, 1879. It is located on the George Beninga quarter in the N.E. corner of the S.W. ¼ of Section 8.

The teachers from 1879 to 1890 were L.M. Eakins, Maude Lathrop, Maggie Walsh, J.L. Shampine, Maude Dembrach, Clara Rumsdell, Lettie Cowden, Rose Millen, Lydia Youngs, Meda Granty. They received a salary of \$25 to \$35 each month.

Early school board officers were L. Thomas, N.P. Wood, L. Shampine, M. Ahartz, C.N. Corliss, J.C. McCormick.

In the early 1900's there were twenty three or more pupils, and the boys attended only in winter, often until age 18 or 20.

### Spring Dell School (concluded)

Peterson, Alma Aamold, Marie Ostroy, Emma Rasmussen, Ella Peterson, Minnie Helgeson, Clara Eikamp, Nellie Carton, Ethel Kerr, C. Kendrick, Esther Paulson, C. R. Hoy, Alta Risdahl, M. VanOsterlou, Emma Langemo, Cora Lunde, Alvira Kipp, Lorraine Shelstad, Mrs. S. Peters, Myldred Mork, Marie Severson, Viola Carton, Grace Howell, Catherine Cole, Lucille Harding, Darline Peterson, Bernice Saeger, Kathryn McLain, Myrna Kjenstad Hansen, Mrs. J. Rogness, Marie Nannestad, Myron Walburg, LaVonne Severson, Lena Hunt, Marjorie Torgerson, Helene Granner, Lyndon Hoseck.

The school house and all the property was sold at an auction sale in 1970. The John Lentz family bought the school house for \$200. The land went back to the original farm now owned by John Lentz. His son Luther and his wife Ann had the school house remodeled and it is now a lovely home for them and their son, John Charles.

by Mrs. Orville Skorseth

### School District #37, Lowe Township

School District #37 is located in Lowe Township. It is known as the Underwood school. District #37 was organized on September 19, 1892.

Early officers were James Yetter, T. D. Wynne, George Yeoman, Wm Haylett, Evan Yetter, A. Underwood, T. Burgess, and J. Underwood. Early teachers were Nettie Wynne, Bertha M. Ramsett, Mrs. U. Thompson, Lydia Young, and Ida Shampine.

The salaries ranged from \$21 to \$30 per month. The school district includes nine sections of Township #117, Range #48.

Teachers from 1933 until the school closed in 1962 were A. Amish, Esther Seim, Alice Bork, Cordus Lounsbury, Daisy Huntington, Lucille Wentzloff, Mrs. E.W. Struss, Norma Haugan, Doris Hunt, Mrs. Joyce Knock, Marie Foss, Mrs. Fred Freese, Dorothy Siefeldt, Amy Tucholke, Virginia Spiering, Mrs. Fred Randgaard, Mrs. Thina Ward.

### Norman School District #39

The voters of Norman School District #39 held a special election in November, 1965 to determine the fate of the school. The results were in favor of dissolving the district and joining with the Clear Lake and Estelline districts. The consolidation became effective July 1, 1966.

The school building was sold at public auction a few years later. When the building was torn down, the record of proceedings from 1883 to 1919 was found in the attic. These records have been bound.

The first meeting on May 17, 1883 was held at the Togstad Post Office (west of Brandt) to organize the school. The bond for the treasurer was made out for \$500.

At a special meeting in June, 1883, a motion was made to erect a school house. A committee was appointed to choose a site for the school grounds. The school house was to be 18 x 24 with a ten foot post and an entrance 8 x 10 feet. The foundation was to be stone, 18 inches and layed in lime mortar.

The committee purchased one acre of land from L.T. Norman located in the corner of his farm.

In 1884 a motion was made to have five months of school the next year, three months in the fall and two in the spring. The fall term was to commence on September 15 and the spring term on April first. The teacher was paid \$30 each month. A tax of eight mills was levied for school purposes. There were twelve boys and ten girls that year.

Records show the vote to have a six-month school session in 1891, weather permitting. In 1913 they began eight months and continued until the state dictated that all schools should have nine months.

In 1914 an ad was run in the paper to advertise for bids for a new school house and at a later meeting the contract was let for the sum of \$1449. This was the building that was used until the Norman school closed.

In the 82 years in which the school operated there were 59 teachers. Ruth Holen taught in #39 the longest, five years. Helene

Granner and Even L. Norman each taught four years, and W. E. Whittemore taught three years. The following teachers each taught two years: Emily Rose (the first teacher), Josie Jensen, Philip Andrew, Ralph Ballantine, Myrtle Rose, Amy Houglund, Helen Peters Klatt, Frances Steffen, Darlene De Kraai, Alice Anderson, Eleanor Bruinsma, Lola Zischke, and Carrol Holen.

by Mrs. Kenneth Prehn

### Sunnyside School District #40

According to school records of May 1883, the school board of District #40 was made up of the following members: Ole Mellom, director; Julius Holen, clerk; and Julius Mellom, treasurer. No information was available about the very first school which must have been built about this time. This building became a dwelling house.

The two-room frame building was built on the northeast corner of the intersection. The building remained for 53 years. A curtain was used for the dividing wall until a more permanent wall was built. The first teachers in the new school were Inga Jensen and Alma Thorson. The enrollment during those early years was as high as 44 pupils.

The name of Sunnyside wasn't used to identify the school until 1914 when a group of girls attending the school named it, because of its location.

Bella Larson was the teacher in 1922 and 1923 when District #40 became a one-room school with an eight month term. The wage variance during the history of the school was from \$45 to a peak of \$500 per month.

The voters decided to join Clear Lake and the school was closed on June 19, 1964. At the school's termination, the board members were Albert Wiesner, Clinton Prehn, and Harry Weber. The last teacher was Mrs. Lena Hunt.

The school house was sold in August 1964 for \$460 to the Clear Lake Golf Club where it became a club house.

Where the original school was located, stands an exact replica of the old landmark. This measures 30 by 30 inches and was built by Albert Wiesner to remind the community that District #40, Sunnyside School, which was once the source of educational opportunity will continue to serve as a directional location for many years to come.

*Below: Albert Wiesner and the replica he built of the School House District #40.*





One heater was located at either end of the room, one a potbellied stove. A barn was located on the north side of the school house. Some who attended at this time were the Bergron boys, Rubys, Benings, Solems, and Briesachers. Water was carried from the Briesacher farm and every one drank from the same dipper in the bucket.

The old school house was relocated at the Clifford Lounsberry farm and a new one built in 1915. The new one was located on the S.E. corner of the S.E. quarter of Section 5, now farmed by Hollis Bork. Otto Frantz contracted the job for hauling the building materials; he hired Selmer Solem to help.

There were pranksters even in those days. One student crawled into the attic and hung headfirst into the library, so that his face was up-side down in full view through the glass doors, to frighten other students.

The school discontinued in 1962 and consolidated with Grant-Deuel. In 1964 Selmer Solem bought the school house. In 1965 it was moved to his farm to make a garage and shop.

Teachers were as follows: Grace Granander, Patty Rogers, Madge Hunt, Grace Herrity, Esther Struss, Viola Bandt, Margaret Quirk, Melvin Wattnem, Leona Haubald, Edna Hemmingson, Edna Lage, Lila Schultz, Katherine Harkins, Florence Baugh, Elaine Wicklund, Sophie Bakken, Mary McLain, Corrine Johnson, Doris Lounsberry, Mrs. Gearman, June Ward, June Freese, Joan Harstad, Ina Crocker, Shirley Warwick, Norma Haugan, Rosetta Beutler, and Donna Swenson.

## District #5

School District #5 was organized in 1879. Emily Roos was the first teacher who began November 19, 1880. She also taught in 1884.

This school house stood across the road from the Wood Lake Church. It was used until 1898; then it was moved one mile east and one-half mile north and became the Swedish Mission Covenant Church.

A new school was built one and one-half miles east and was called Lake View School. The school board members were Andrew Anderson, J.C. Peterson, and C.P. Walberg. The school was closed in the spring of 1950 and joined Astoria. This building was moved south of Lake Cochrane for a Bible camp resort for the Methodist Church.

## District #6

School District #6 (Pioneer) in the southeast corner of Deuel County organized December 18, 1879. The school board members were J.O. Neshiem, E.E. Distad, and Enock Larson.

The first teacher was Emily Roos who taught three months in 1881, at \$23 a month. The second teacher was Burr H. Seim, in 1882.

On July 1, 1950, this school was closed and joined District 74 at Astoria. Later the school house was moved into Hendricks. It was made into a home now owned by Jeanett Tollefson.

## Willow Row School District #7

Willow Row was organized January 22, 1880. It got its name because Thorval Hansen, a homesteader on land south of the school, planted a long row of willow trees bordering the school grounds.

J.L. Mellom was the first treasurer and Andrew J. Roos the first Clerk of the school board. In April 1882, \$31.81 was granted to Willow Row for expenses; in July \$7.20; in October \$11.50. In addition, the first teacher, Emily Roos (Rose) was paid \$25 a month. Emily was the daughter of Andrew Roos and an aunt of Alice Woolworth of Clear Lake.

The first school term commenced September 5, 1881 and ended December 9, 1881, the second was from November 1882 to January 28, 1883.

Susie Knutson, the school teacher at Willow Row, was paid \$30 a month and taught two terms. The first term she had eight boys and seven girls, the second term nine boys and three girls. During Emma Melhan's second term she had twenty-four boys and seven girls.

One teacher who taught at Willow Row was our own dear Maria Holen. She was a born teacher. I've heard many of her former students remark, "You just had to learn your English when Maria was at the helm. How could you forget her 'Uffda, how can you be so dumb?'"

Many wells were dug in various places around the school yard. They were always going dry, caving in, or tasting acrid. The common cup was no doubt a big help in assuring that everyone caught the latest "bug" circulating among the students.

In 1894 "motion was made that the clerk notify all patrons of the district that no children will be permitted to attend school who have parasites," commonly known as lice.

The school was destroyed by fire on a cold winter morning in February, 1958. After the fire, school was held in the basement of Selmer Anderson's new home. Later a school building was moved on to the site.

*Below: Willow Row School, 1924-1925*

*Front row: James Johnson, Thelma Easthouse, Eloise Jones, George Feten. Middle row: Violet Pittman, Delores Elliott, Agnes Helland (teacher), Maizie Nevenheim, Kathryn Feten, Olga Mandal ?, Leonard Nevenheim, Irene Johnson, Edna Mandal, Irene Falken. Absent: Orven Feten, James Falken.*





**Three sets of twins at Willow Row.**  
**Front: Dianah and Donnie Asmussen. Middle: Richard and Ronald Rust. Top: Ernie and Bernie Hartwig.**

Eva Holt reminisces as a school board member: "We held basket socials, Clubs, square dances, and Grange meetings there. It was a community center. But even with the big stove it was cold. Spilled milk on the desks would often freeze before it could be wiped away. Most of the desks in 1918 were double."

Ardis Neville, a teacher recalls, "The teachers desk had been made from a parlor organ. The keys had been taken out and drawers were placed on both sides under the top of the desk. It was cold, at nights we filled and banked the stove. The building would be reasonably warm the next morning."

Three generations taught in Willow Row, Ardis Neville, her mother and grandmother. This must be a record for the county.

In the thirties, Willow Row offered the first Driver's Education classes. Miss Rita Easthouse, the teacher, had a car and taught her pupils to drive when they became old enough.

The District consolidated with Clear Lake in 1968. The last school board members were Henry Sample (chairman), Selmer Anderson (treasurer), C. Lyle Holt (clerk). The last teacher was Mrs. Esther Thompson. The last pupils attending are shown in the picture below.

Some Willow Row students still live in the vicinity.

by Eva I. Holt

**Willow Row, 1965, Mother's Day, Last pupils in school. Front: Lisa Parliament and Randall Holt, visitors.**  
**Second: Dan Parliament, Carey Holt, and Scott Sample.**  
**Top Row: Suzan Parliament, Douglas Feten, Mrs. Esther Thompson, Don Anderson, Connie Sample.**



## Emerson School, District #9

Hillside school, Emerson, District #9 was built about 1877 south of the Emerson farm, now known as the Leonard Konold farm. It was moved one and one-half mile east and again to the present site. This school house was built in 1914. Joe Wold laid the foundation and Johnny Ohman was the carpenter.

The first school teachers were E.O. Eggen and Augusta Thronson. The board members when the school was organized were Matt Emerson, Amund Christopherson, and Amund Emerson. The late William Landmark, served as clerk, holding the longest record, 33 years.

The District was consolidated with Toronto and Astoria in 1958. The board members at that time were Vernon Landmark (clerk), Mrs. Norman Overby (treasurer), Mrs. Andrew Vant Hul (chairman).

Many years ago, Leganger held church services in the school.

## Mikkelson School, District #10

The early pioneers foresaw the need of a country school house. They were E. Everson, Torkel Tolrude, A.E. Rud, Ole Nesheim, K. Nelson, Andrew Thronson, M. Mikkelson, and Elling Rud. Mikkelson gave an acre of land for the school house, which was built in 1883, and Torkel Tolrude gave two rods of his land for a driveway going north.

The first teacher was John Thronson and there were four months of school that year. The first parochial or Norwegian school was taught by Anna Thronson, one month in the summer of 1884. This was continued every summer for many years.

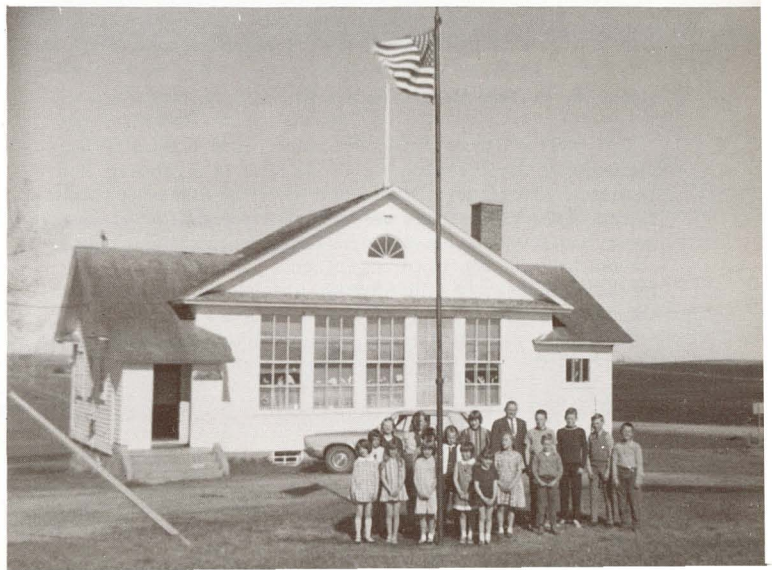
When O.C. Halverson was the teacher the pupils stayed all night during the big blizzard. It came up so fast they could not get to the nearest farm a quarter of a mile away.

Like all country schools, this one has had its stormy and pleasant days, hard times and good. In the summer of 1953, the school was moved near to highway 77 to make it more convenient to those living in the district.

In 1962, the school was closed and the pupils were sent to Toronto. Since 1967 it is a part of Deubrook District.

## Troupe School District #11

*The Troupe school is one of the few rural schools still in its location, it too is being remodeled into other things, a home and business. One of the last groups is shown below.*





## School District #18

Little is known about School District #18. However many will remember one of the students who attended there for two years. He was a scholar, Mr. C. G. St. John. Mr. St. John later became superintendent of the Clear Lake School, Deuel County Superintendent of Schools, and still later South Dakota Superintendent of Schools.

## Altamont School District #21

School district #21 was formed in July 1880, when Mr. Wescott was County Superintendent. Those first years this district was composed of 24 sections. Some were detached leaving Altamont School with 15 sections.

The first building was a one-room school house size 22 by 32 feet. A few years later another room and hallway were added. In 1921 this building was bought by F.J. Mehle and part was rebuilt into a home; the other into a barn and chicken coop.

A new modern brick building was erected in 1920 and 1921. The first officers were J.C. Goddard, James Campbell and H. H. Guernsey. The first term was in 1882 with Eva DeCou the teacher, the salary was \$20 per month. The enrollment was eight males and fifteen females.

After the new building was in use there was a large enough attendance for several years to have a four-year high school. Then it became a two-year high school and in the thirties the high school children went elsewhere.

The school was retained as a one-room school until 1954 when there were enough children to require two teachers. Miss Bessie Levins taught the upper grades and Mrs. Florence Miller the primary grades.

Some other teachers who taught there were Mrs. Hilda Nelson,



*Above: Altamont School built in 1920*

Marjorie Dennis, Lois Hoseck, Alyce Knopp, Cheri Siegfried, and Helen Gjere.

In 1965, the year of the eighty-fifth anniversary of Altamont the program was a play written about the lives of the pioneers who came to Altamont. Many of them had descendants attending Altamont School.

The present Altamont Community Club was started as a Mother's Club in the school. They did many things to improve the school, help the children and teachers.

In the summer of 1970 the school was closed. School was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harland Bublitz for the year 1970-1971. Mrs. Miller was the teacher that year.

The following year the school organization was closed and became a part of the Clear Lake district, in full.

*Below: Altamont School about 1950, Grades one through eight.*  
**Front Row:** Charles Geisler, Helen Hanson, Bernice Phipps, Curtis Davison, Alice Andrews, unidentified, Dale Andrews, Margaret Zastrow, Mabel Reihe, Shirley Beckman, Marian Hanson.  
**Second row:** Edna Hanson, Harold Andrews, Lavona Brezee, Robert Drake, Dorothy Hanson, Maurene Cook, Hilma Hanson, Grace Bublitz, Harley Davison, Emil Bublitz, Walter Phipps, Ronald Davison, Thorvald Erickson.  
**Third row:** Conrad Erickson, Rees Price, Caroline Beste, Stanley Hendrickson, Oscar Hanson, Violet Beste, Josie Prarat, Albert Sample, Johnny Hendrickson, Velma Beckman.  
**Fourth row:** Arden Drake, Elmer Bublitz, Fred Drake, Melba Case, Ella Bublitz, (janitor) Louie Stoltenberg, Bernard Price.  
**Top row:** Paul Wicker, Olive Hanson, Margaret Baugh (lower grade teacher), Walter Parish (upper grade teacher), Otto Wieber



### Troupe School #11 (continued)

The school that first served this district was located on the quarter north of the present site, it then had to be moved to the center of the district or within one-half mile of it. The land was donated by Mr. Wilkey.

In looking at some old records these are a few interesting facts: in 1909 the term was seven months, teacher Agnes McGill, twelve students, Clarence Oswald was a student. In 1911, there were eight months of school, teacher's salary was \$42.50. In 1912 total expenses were \$440.25, in 1915 \$611.50. In February 1919 a warrant was written for \$2000 to August Tunnison for the present building. Mr. Herman Oswald and O.A. Almos were on the school board at that time.

In 1922, Mrs. Birdie Artus was hired to bring order to the school which she did with the help of "the old birch rod", there were 35 students. Isabelle Oswald was a teacher at one time, as was Mary Gordon, Ina Harkins 1896, and Marjorie Dennis.

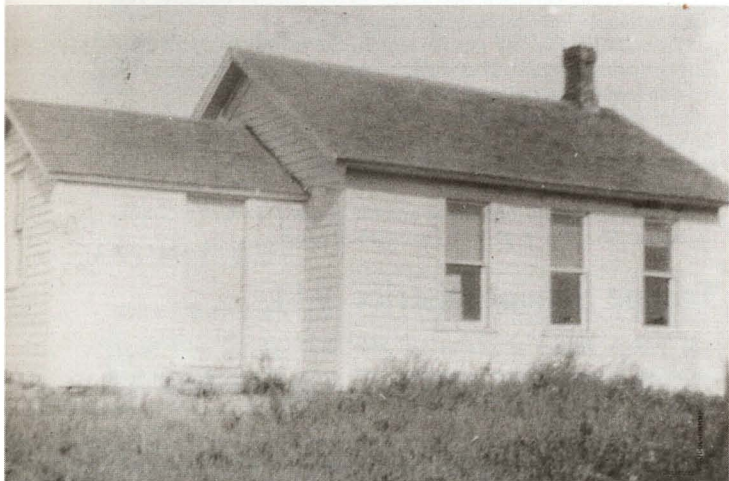
Here are some items of interest: flag pole cost \$26; 1926 four new desks plus freight cost \$21.27; tuition to Gary in 1936 was \$9 for each student.

Others who served on the school board were W.R. Schuttler, Mr. McLain, Lucy Snyder, Karl Oswald, Gene Piper, Aldon Almos, Royal Thompson, Iven Fairchild, and Marvin Meyen.

Troupe was the first school in the county to have electricity.

After having served the community long and well it was surrendered to county organization and merged with the Gary School system in 1970. It has been turned into a home and resort in 1977 and is known as "Stone Hill."

### Hilltop School District #12



*Above: the original school, District #12*

The voters of School District Number 12 met on April 1880, at the house of Jacob Fraker, for the purpose of organizing. A.L. Lawrence, J.H. Harley and J. Fraker were the first school board elected. A two per cent tax was voted, one percent for the school house fund, seven and one-half mills for the teacher's fund and two and one-half mills for the contingent fund. The school term was set for three months and a committee was appointed to select a site for the school house.



*Above: Hilltop School District #12*

The committee selected one acre from Section 14 from the Northeast Quarter, Range 50, Township 116. The schoolhouse was built by William Crozier. Miss Nellie Smith, who later married Al Steer, was the first teacher.

Charles O. Peterson, who lived southwest, was school treasurer for 50 years and his children attended #12.

The school house was moved nearer the center of the district in 1898, this land was later deeded to the district by Jens Jenson. They took bids for moving, adding an entry and the work was to go to the lowest bidder: John T. Shewell of Clear Lake submitted the following bid: "I will move your school house for the sum of forty dollars and furnish all material and put the foundation under for the sum of ten dollars and build an entry 10x10 x 7 feet high and furnish all material. And side and paper it, and put one door and one window in the same for the sum of forty dollars." His was the low bid.

In 1920, Frank Johnson bought the old school for \$65 and bonds were issued to build a new school house. Charles Sandgraf was the architect and J.H. Schrewers built it. O.H. Hansen was paid \$33.95 for painting the new school.

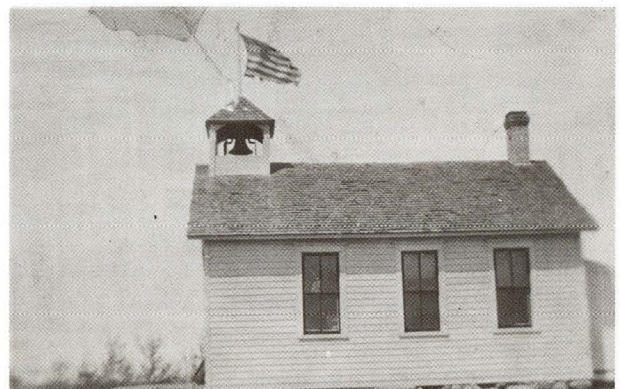
Apparently Susie Adney was the last teacher in the old school and Hattie McKie was the first teacher in the new school.

A December entry in 1930 indicates that the district lost \$50.30 when the Goodwin bank failed.

The school was closed for two terms in 1946-1948, reopened in 1948. The final term was 1951-1952. The school house was torn down in the middle 1960's and used to build an addition on Russell Carlson's house.

### Antelope Valley School District #13

Antelope Valley School is commonly known as the Cole school. In 1879 to 1881 sod houses and shacks were built by immigrants who came to claim a homestead. These little buildings could be spotted on the bleak, barren prairies in the vicinity one mile west and eight or nine miles north of Gary, in Deuel County, Dakota Territory.



It is Hereby Agreed between School District number 24, County of

Dall and Dakota Terr. and Sarah Tubbs Teacher

That the said Sarah Tubbs is to teach the Common

School of said District for the term of Three 3 months, for the sum of

Twenty 20 Dollars per month

commencing on the 6 day of June, 1881

and for such services properly rendered, the said school district is to pay the amount that may

be due according this contract on or before the last day of December, 1881

This 6th day of June 1881. Frank Astmiller District Board, D.R. Morgan Director, Anton Artus Treasurer.

School District #24

Above: Teacher's contract for District #24 issued to Sarah Tubbs to teach three months in the district at twenty dollars a month. It is dated June 6, 1881. The school board members signing are Frank, D.R. Morgan (director), and Anton Artus (treasurer).

Below: Freddie Krause, Myrtle Krause, Artie Krause, Rosa Kreuger, Clara Kreuger, Albert Kreuger, Bennie Kreuger, Elmer Klemm, Henry Klemm, Ferdinand Klemm, George Klemm, Elmer Klemm, Ida Pronk, Elsie Pronk, Lydia Schiefelbein, Clara Schiefelbein, Ida Pronk, Elsie Pronk, Sydia Schiefelbein, Clara Schiefelbein, Laura Schiefelbein, Johnny Schiefelbein, Albert Schiefelbein, Edna Schiefelbein, Eddie Vanderzee. The teacher is George Newman. Picture taken in 1904. School board members at this time were Henry Degenaar, Herman Krause, and Fred Schiefelbein.



## Plainview School District #41

Among the virgin grass and wild flowers, just two miles north of the winding Hidewood creek in Hidewood Township, Deuel County, set a one-room school house in the late 1800's. This school was given the name Plainview as you could see for miles in all directions.

It was located in the edge of a ravine, where in the spring a full stream of water ran. Meadowlarks and killdeer made their homes nearby, while children of some twenty in count watched them.

In 1899, the neighbors decided it was inconveniently located, and as a road had been established just sixty rods to the west, it was decided to move the school house to the location we all remember.

In 1906, a terrible winter blizzard moved in. It started near noon. By four o'clock, the teacher, Miss Florence Langdon, knew the parents would not get to the school house. This courageous woman made a chain. She was the leader, taking the hand of the smallest child, gradually leading to the oldest and largest to be at the other end of the line. She led the twenty-two pupils to the Julius Schleuter Sr. home, about eighty rods. They arrived safely, except for some frozen fingers and faces.

These pupils and teacher had to stay with Mrs. Schleuter four days until the storm subsided.

Many happy events were held in this school house. It was the social center of the community. At one of the social events, Jess Woolworth, a resident of Clear Lake, brought out a Delco light plant and used it for lights that evening.

In 1906 the school house was used every Sunday by parishioners of the Congregational Church of Clear Lake.

Lois Stee writes: "I started at Plainview along with my brothers and sisters in 1928. On the first warm spring day, we would each take our lunch box and at noon would start on a hike into the hills, along the creek. When we got hungry, we enjoyed a picnic dinner out of our lunch box or gallon pail which some carried. The aroma of the tightly closed box as we opened it will remain in my memory a long time.

"We would watch the gophers and often come upon a pheasant or prairie chicken nest. Best of all we would each come back with a bouquet of may flowers and pussy willows.

"All eight grades were taught in this one-room school. We didn't have a well or instant drinking water. Often the teacher carried a covered pail of water from the place where she roomed and boarded; therefore providing water for drinking and washing hands. The pupils took turns carrying coal for the stove. During the term of Irma Rosenbohm, an oil burner was purchased and the fuel oil was piped in. This was a treat.

"Each year just before school started, it was the duty of the school board members' wives to clean the school; and for as long as I can remember this duty fell on Mrs. George Roecker, Mrs. Harry Koppman, and my mother, Mrs. Julius Schleuter.

"Four generations of our family attended Plainview school. My grandmother, Mrs. Mary Konold Wiesel; my mother and father, Julius and Vera Schleuter; and our three children, now Mrs. Phyllis Stee Nieman, Mrs. Joan Stee Kraus, and Ronald Stee. In 1951, electricity was hooked up in the school.

"Our three children rode horseback to school. One spring day, when the ditches were filled with water, our girls mounted their horse and started for home. When only a few rods from school, the pony went into the water-filled ditch and layed down to cool off, giving both girls an unexpected bath.

"In 1965, the families in Plainview voted to consolidate with Clear Lake. They closed and disposed of the property. In October of 1966 an auction was held, the barn was sold to Cap Nieman and Herman Jurgens became the owner of the long loved Plainview School."

During the years 39 teachers taught at Plainview. They were Elizabeth Loucks, Nellie Miesner, Mary Tragner, B. Schultz, F. Kreger, Myrtle Konold, Eva Schaefer, Helen Paulson, Grace Clark, Florence Goldbeck, Gladys Konold, Clara Nor, Marie Finley, Mildred Voght, Corol Knuth, Marie Nannestad, Viola Kreger, Francis Haschied, Esther Dage, Lila Hartins, Hannah Gorgers, Bessie Terry, Nedra Blue, Florence Nelson, Walter Thompson, Louise Fost,

Gladys Kittleson, Katherine Harkins, Gertrude Schleuter, Emma Jones, Cloud Romance, Jessica Begalka, Verla Nyhoff, Mavis Campbell, Olga Dahl, Donna Weisner, and Janice Gauger.

by Lois Stee

## Antelope Valley School District #42

On July 7, 1914 at 2:00 p.m. in the home of C. D. Limberg, School District #42 became a reality. Serving for the election were E. J. Keller, C. D. Limberg, George Limberg, and Mike Eidem. These same men served on the board for the next eight years. They voted that day to issue a bond for \$1600.00 for the purpose of building and furnishing a school, to be paid back in ten years.

In 1916 when Ida Nelson Beninga came to teach, the school house was nearly new and Ray Willroth, Billy Limberg, Joseph Eidem, and Milton Limberg were in the first grade. She taught three years.

Lillian Lytle Sherburne came in the fall of 1919. She taught one year in #42 and one year in District #13, closer to home. Arthur convinced her to become a farmer's wife. She still lives in her same home. Naomi Mathews taught in 1920-1921.

Bertha Heaton Cole taught the following year. She drove her horse and buggy three and one-half miles to school, and often picked up pupils on the way to school. She married Wells Cole and stayed in the neighborhood. Four generations of Coles completed school here. Three generations of Coles served on the school board. For many years it was known as the Cole school.

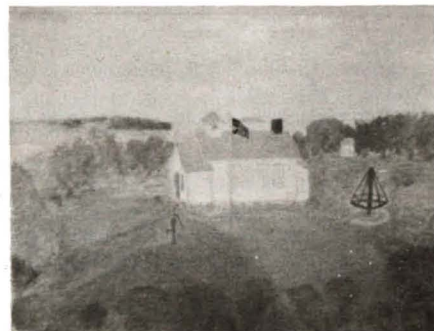
Clara Eikamp Hubbs taught one year. It was not unusual for her to hike ten miles home to Gary on weekends, even in winter. She quit teaching to pursue her nursing career. Other teachers were Jessie Simonton, Margaret Tusa, Edith Lansing Cole, Hazel Collins and Evadna Cochrane.

Students of high school level went to Marietta, Minnesota, until 1953, when a law was passed ending South Dakota residents crossing the Minnesota border for school, they then attended Revillo High School. In 1963 all schools consolidated and formed what is now the Grant-Deuel School.

When the school was closed, an auction was held, and all the books and even the bell from the top of the school house were sold. The school house was bought by Willie Phillips. It was moved to what was known as the J. Schroeder farm, where part of it still stands.

In its 77 years as an area of learning, about 60 teachers and 35 to 40 board members were involved. Gone but not forgotten is District #13. Many are the memories it has left, some sad, but many of wonderful and exciting days. It may have been the first rural school in Deuel County in 1880.

by Mrs. Bertha (Wells) Cole



## School District #26 Rome Township

There were three rural schools in Rome Township. The first school to be organized was District #26. This school was organized on November 17, 1881. The first members of the school board were: Peter Crom, clerk; W. O. Barkwill, director; and John T. Newby. Some of the first teachers in this school were; Addie Lentzmeyer, Elizabeth Beirschied Bauer, Isabell Kliegle, Mrs. William Rohweder Sr. (Hansen), and Miss Trygstad. For two years a minister came out from Goodwin and taught this school. In those years school was in session only about three months of the year.

On June 26, 1899, Rome Township bought this school house and moved it one mile north and one mile east of where it was located. Since that time the township has used it for the Town Hall. They purchased this school house for \$100. The district built a new school house and just a few years later it burned to the ground. The cause of the fire was an over-heated stovepipe. A third school house was built by John Rosenkranz. In 1920 District #26 consolidated with District # three. The school house was sold and was moved by a steam engine to a place west of Altamont.

Some of the children who went to this school in the early 1900's were: Jennie, Annie, Lillie and Frank Crom; George, Wesley, Fred and John Wemmering; Mable, Myrtle, Willie, George and Henry Bernitz; Tommy, Amelia and Alfred Lippert; Hartwick Johnson; Ludwig, Frank and Theresa Leindl; and Hattie Wigdale.

## Pleasant View School District #27, Grange Township

On the 17th of May 1898, a Canadian family sold a farm to John Wattnem. It included all the land except two plus acres in the south east corner which was for the school.

The first daily attendance Register that could be found starts with the fall term on September 14, 1891 with Elsie Gullickson as teacher. Pupils were: Mary Gasper, Georgina Granner, Gena Bransrud, Carl Bransrud, Julius Granner, Carl Granner, Henry Thompson, Lewis Hatlestad, Sever Hatlestad, Sam Hatlestad, Annie Alseike, Sever Alseike, John Gasper, Sever Thompson and Henry Koppman.



**Above: School-year 1928-1929**  
**Front row (kneeling): Harold Ricklefs, Vernon Lawrence, Allen Hatlestad, Verner Nystrom, Dorward Schleuter**  
**Second row (seated): Lillian Nystrom, Alice Jurgens, Betty Nystrom (standing), Ada Aaby (teacher), Lillian Fjerestad, Lenore Wattnem.**  
**Back row: Hazel Gasper, Stella Nystrom, Eva Wattnem, Richard Ricklefs, Harold Gasper, Lois Lawrence, Olive Schleuter, Martha Jurgens, Elizabeth Gulbraa. Not on picture - Inez Schleuter.**

O. C. Dokken was the County Superintendent at this time. The winter term started in January and ended April 15, 1892.

The fall term of 1892, with Mrs. Thorno Paulsen as teacher, had 16 pupils. The 1893 term, commencing October 2, had Maggie Walsh, teacher, with 23 pupils.

The winter term commenced January 9, 1894 with W. S. Alexander as teacher. Peter T. Mellom was the teacher for the fall term.

A big two-room brick school was built to replace the original school house in 1925. It was partially wrecked by a tornado in the spring of 1942 and was rebuilt into a one room school. The school voted to close and join the Estelline School District in 1964.

## Gravning School District #28, Grange Township



**Above: Gravning School — about 1937**  
**Myrtle Gorder (deceased), Arlitt Stroschein Warner, Margie Green, Darlene Kienest Tiezen, Oriska Gravning Stroschein, Audrey Anderson Texley (deceased). Boy to left: Jarvin Anderson. Other boy: Willis Green**

The Gravning School District #28 was organized in about 1885. The first school board had as its members: Eric Westley, J. J. Gravning and Ole Lea, the latter two were bachelors. By the time the school house was built, J. J. Gravning had married the widow of Eric Westley and he donated the land for the school site. Manda Mathison, Laura Sonnenburg, Arthur Miller, August Bucholz and Ida Allickson were a few of the early teachers.

In 1926 a new two-room school house was built. Freshman year high school was taught in addition to the required eight grades. A Mr. Prescott was Deuel County Superintendent of Schools at this time. The old school was sold to George Laberee and the building still stands on his farm in Grange Township. For a number of years, the enrollment ranged from 30 to 40 pupils.

In 1946 the school was closed because the enrollment had decreased to three pupils. These pupils were bused to Estelline. However, a few years later the school was reopened until it was permanently closed in 1963.

In 1966 part of the district consolidated with Deubrook and the remainder with Estelline. In 1968 the school house was dismantled, and the land reverted to the present owners of the Gravning land, Stroschein Brothers.

I attended District #28 from 1930 until 1938 including grade nine. In 1944, I returned to teach the school for two terms. To the best of my knowledge, I am the only pupil of that school who later returned to teach there.

by Mrs. Leon Stroschein

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by Mrs. Leon Stroschein

## Pleasant View School District #45

Pleasant View School was first held in the Barney O'Hare home, with Theodore O'Hare as the teacher. After the school was built, some of the early board members were A. W. Carlson, M. F. White, Tom Nelson, Ole Nelson, George Stoner, Ed Maas, Nellie O'Hare, W. H. Keith, J. T. O'Hare, J. G. Murphy, and Mrs. M. F. White.

Early teachers were Anna Geardink, Violet McDonald, Gertrude Cronin, Margaret Lavin, Amy Derr, and Hattie Mielke. After 1931 the teachers were Dorothy Bork, Adelaide Tassler, R. S. Bently, Mae O'Hare, Gladys Cummins, Barbara Deville, Adelaide Swenson, Jessie Pank, Betty Djonne, Ida Skogsberg, Violet Cloudy, Beatrice Kluge, Marie and Dorothy Seefeldt, Bonnie Heeren, Iona Korpala, Mrs. Randgaard, Mrs. Roberts.

In 1957, while Donna Swenson was teaching, the school closed.

## School District #46

At District #46, school was first held in the Tom Conley home. Mrs. Conley taught her own children along with a few neighboring children. In 1883 the school house was built. The cost of the lumber was \$80.00, the first teacher was Carrie Hubbs from Gary. School was held for only two months that year.

Marie Cain and Elsie Baon taught for many years. Board members as early as 1902 were August Asmusson, chairman; W. J. Bell, clerk; and J. Cain, treasurer. Others who served on the board were Mrs. Ton Conley, Mrs. Gust Schmidt, Mr. and Mrs. Silas Weeks, and Mrs. Frank Carlson.

In 1917 there were only six students, five boys and one girl.

The clerk's records were kept in the Gust Schmidt home, which burned in 1930. For lack of students the school closed. Officers still maintained their duties. New families moved into the district, so in 1930 the school reopened.

Teachers from 1930 to 1946 were Marguerite Hamling, Helen Dumphy, Anna Galvin, Gladys Cummins, Doris Wicklund, and Mrs. John O'Hare.

In 1946 the school closed again and the students were sent to other districts.

## School District #47

School District #47 was located in Hidewood Township one-half mile west of where Marvin Hamann lives in 1977. It was in the pathway of Interstate 29 and was burned.



## School District #48

School District #48 was organized on May 31, 1884. The men who served on the first school board were E. Lassig, director; R. A. Whipple, clerk; and R. Raschke, treasurer. The first school house was built around 1917.

Some of the first teachers were Berdyne Ulven, Elenora Jellesma, Esther Webb, Kathleen Hand, Emma Ihrke and Anna Dumke.

When Elizabeth Bierschied Bauer was 16 years of age, she rode her bicycle out from Goodwin and taught this school. Some of her students were Tony and Frances Korbel; Mary, Nellie and Dina Schmidt; Bill Dorman; the Ludwig Freidle children; the Engles children; and the Fred Raschke children.

In 1946 the school closed and consolidated with District #3.

## Pleasant Valley School District #51

District #51, was organized on December 31, 1884; then it was reorganized in December of 1885. The first persons to serve on the school board were Louis Jacobson, director; I. J. Lynne, clerk; Ole Joromo, treasurer; and Gustave Anderson, director. Some of the teachers who taught there were Johanna Dagenar, Lulu Roberts, Avis Mitchell and Lila Larson. Some of the students who went to this school in the earlier years were Clara, Loaf, Louis and Nettie Bjerke; Henry, Emily, Anna, Mary and Anton Weber; Anna, Nels, Hilda, Emma, Carrie, Morris, and Johnny Jacobson; John, Gina, Bennett, Willy, and Lilly Larson; Mable, Myrtle, William, Henry and George Bernitz; Annie, Andrew and Wallburg Dahlstrom; Harry and Ethyle Wilson.

The present school house was built in 1917 by John Larson and Charlie Dahl. It was built south of the first school house on the same plot of land. The old one was moved when the new one was finished. The school closed for a couple of years in 1955; then it reopened and Ethel Anderson taught this school until its final closing in 1961. It then consolidated with District #3.

## Good View School District #53 Scandinavia Township

The first record of a meeting of District #53 in Deuel County, Dakota Territory was one held at the house of J. H. Kopperud on April 10, 1885, with Ole Halvorson as clerk and Edwin Hawley, treasurer.

On June 15, 1885, a special meeting was held for the purpose of voting for or against issuing bonds on the district. The vote carried. Two weeks later it was voted to issue 18 mills on the dollar on all taxable property as a school fund, and that the director, clerk and treasurer should receive \$5.00 per year for their services.

It was voted that same year to have the school house in the center of the district as near as practicable.

The school house was built for \$400.00 in the summer of 1885 and J. H. Kopperud was paid \$5.00 for one acre of land for the site on condition that the school district pay all the expenses necessary for securing a deed.

Ole Halvorson was hired to teach, govern, and conduct the scholars of the public school for the sum of \$110.00. The next year he received \$112.00.

Teachers were, from October 1888, Nellie H. Misener, Ray F. Whitston, Emma Malham, Albert Sturges, Lars Hollekime, Rosa Moen, Alice Peterson, Bertha Erickson, G. O. Halvorson, Mary Moen, Clara M. Jensen, J. M. Peterson, Anna Peterson, Anna Thompson, Amanda Pederson, Sam Shelstad, Clara Wrolstad, Hilda Sandru, Alice Saulter, Oscar Erickson, Katryn Cullian, Lena Mathison, Lenie Dahle, Oreska Walberg and Walter Jerde, Olga Zeske, Dagny Lovaas, Ada Wernes, Mrs. S. E. Peters, Mrs. Conrad Solberg, Ruth Brevik, Marie Lightner, Myrtle Hogie, Walter Person, Julia Dokken, Mrs. Gordon Behank, Marie Nannestad, and Julia Rogness.

In the fall of 1896 Hugo Fahlen became treasurer and had that

## Longman School District #29, Blom Township

April 4, 1882, School Superintendent of Deuel County formed school district #29. Proceedings of the first meeting held at the house of Joseph H. Mundahl on April 4, 1882. On motion, it was decided not to build a school house this year — J. H. Mundahl, clerk.

A special meeting on May 19, 1883 was held at the home of N.E. Quickstad. On motion, it was decided to build a school house, 18 feet by 18 feet, and 10 feet high, with four windows and one door.

M. T. Allum received the first warrant issued, \$200 for building the school house. The Racine School Furniture Company received a warrant of \$40 for all the school house furniture.

The first teachers, B. M. Ramsett and Josephine Quissel taught the fall and spring terms (80 days) each receiving \$50.00. There were 14 children enrolled, the spring term ended June 30, 1884.

A special meeting on July 31, 1899 was called for the purpose of voting bonds for the building of a new school house for the district. The votes were cast — eight for a new school house and two against.

The new school house cost \$628.00. O. Molstad built it and John Ostgaard was paid \$60.00 for his stonework and cellar.

June 19, 1900 the motion was made to have six months of school. It was also decided to have the Board or teachers see to it that the larger scholars at school take the outside seats in the winter. Ole E. Olson was the first teacher in the new school house at \$30.00 a month salary.

The Longman school house was moved in the summer of 1946 near highway 77. Mrs. Dean Hallock taught the last term, nine months, 14 children were enrolled.

## Pleasant Valley School District #32, Portland Township

Pleasant Valley was located in the corner of section 25 in Portland Township. The records of this district go back to 1902 at which time Charles Ebel was chairman, T. R. Cronin was clerk and P. A. Turbak was treasurer. T. R. Cronin was clerk for many, many years. Other early board members were Fred Erickson, William Oestreich, E. Hannestad, William Pahl, M. F. Beeckman, J.E. Bogenief, John Crom and Albert Dumke. Early teachers found on records were Carrie Nelson, Clare Conley, Marie Cain, Mary Lux, Ben Roe Senior, Katie White, Sadie Anderson, Marie Lavin, Margaret Ries, Gertrude Cronin, Jane Mulder, Thina Tenneson, Leona Cronin, Daisy Huntington. In 1931 and the years to follow the teachers were: Anna Dumke, Myrtle Ashbough, Avice Mitchell, Rachael Kastein, Clayton Holt, Helen Nilsson, Mae E. Lee, Ella Mae Veen, Mary Lou Grabow, Verna Holen, Grace Keener, Vivian Peterson, Shirley J. Peterson, Shirley Crerar, Lenice Tornow, George Orman, Marla Moore, and Nora Murray.

The highlight of each school year was the Christmas program. The nervous performers always did their best, but were glad when it was over. You could always see the sigh of relief on the teacher's face, too. The adults enjoyed the free lunch and lots of visiting afterwards.

In 1962 part of the district consolidated into the newly organized Grant-Deuel District in Revillo. The other half went to Clear Lake. The properties went to Grant-Deuel. The building was sold to the Jaeger family who moved it east of Round Lake and made it into a dwelling. Nora Murray was the last teacher. Last board members were Louis Dumke, chairman, Albert Schumacher, clerk, and Victor Peterson, treasurer.

## Moritz School District #33

The families around what was later the town of Moritz made plans and organized District #33 on April 4, 1882.

It was thought that in the beginning Mrs. Peachey may have taught pupils in her home, and thereafter school was held in a building on the Peachey farm, one mile east of where Moritz was located.

On May 15, 1883, school began with Hattie Wood, teacher, with an enrollment of 19 pupils. The last day of the term was August 3, 1883. The school board officers were: W. C. Sills, John Yetter, and J. Peachey. The teacher's salary was \$24.00.

A school building was finished in 1893 in what was then called the Cadwell District #33 and evidently painted red, for it was called "The Little Red School." At that time there was only a spring and fall term of school of about two months each. It was a very cold building with the wind often blowing in through the wide cracks between the floor boards and around the windows. Perhaps it was the discomfort of the pupils and the longer school terms around the turn of the century that led the patrons of the school district to deem it necessary to put up a warmer and more substantial building.

On September 20, 1904, an acre of land was purchased from John and Augusta Rust, one-half mile north of Moritz. Upon a good foundation a new school building was erected with the required high ceiling, three full-sized windows on either side with a bracket wall kerosene lamp by each one, and a long wall blackboard in the front of the room. The teacher's desk, chair, and a wooden blackboard were brought from the old school house. The outside door led into an entry-cloakroom and a door from it led to a fuel bin on the north. Like most country schools it was heated by a soft coal stove. The fire had to be started each morning.

While the purpose of the school was to educate boys and girls, the building was used for other community purposes, too. From 1889, the school building served as a township hall and polling place for voting.

Church services were often held on Sunday during the summer in rural school houses, and because there were ministers who were willing to drive out, folks within the district made use of the opportunity to hear the Word of God. As many as 35 to 45 persons of various faiths attended church and Sunday school there. Thinking that an organ would benefit both church and school, money was raised to buy an expensive organ.

In our little country school house, the celebration of the birth of Jesus on Christmas Eve seemed the most sacred and most beautiful of all entertainments and was enjoyed by both young and old. Each fall a basket social was held to raise money to buy material for Christmas stockings and the "goodies" to fill each one.

The pupils, under the direction of the teacher, practiced for weeks and presented a lengthy program, nearly all relating to the Christ Child but with some numbers of mild comedy to add a bit of mirth and merriment. After that, someone played Santa Claus and brought in the filled Christmas stockings to give to each child in the district. In later years the mothers sold lunches to earn money for the Young Citizen's League, using the money to buy library books, playground equipment, games, and so forth.

*Below: Moritz School District #33, 1919 Lawrence Woolworth, teacher (near window)*

*Far right: Winnetta Hunt, Ferrice Price, Lula Hunt, Laurice Hunt*





### District #53 (concluded)

job for 50 years. In 1903 John Singasaas became clerk, a position he held for 40 years.

The school closed in the spring of 1957. Willis Kurtenback bought the building and moved it to his place located five miles north of Astoria.

### Battle Creek School District #54

The Battle Creek School was organized April 11, 1885. Members of the first board were O. C. Halvorson, Tom Halvorson and S. Sater. The first teacher was Augusta Thronson, in 1886. She received \$28.00 per month.

This district closed sometime in the '50s and the school house was moved to Watertown to be used for a residence.

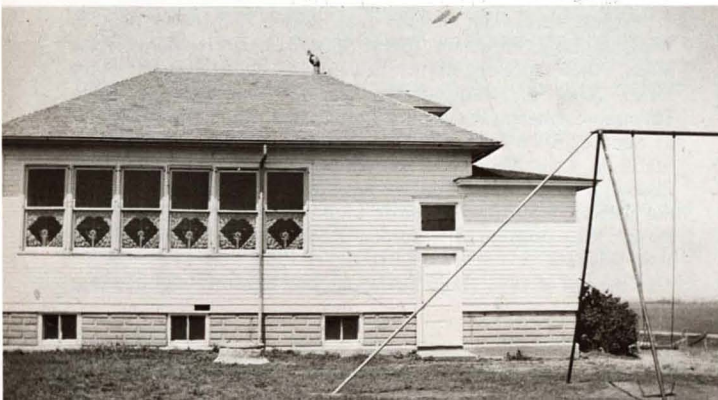
### Prairie Rose School District #56

Prairie Rose School was organized May 30, 1885. Before this time the pupils in the area had attended Lone Tree Lake School District #31 as it had been organized two years earlier. Lucille Hoffman Sime recalls, "The school, first known as the Breitung School and then the Briesacher School, was standing further south and east of its present location. It was an old building with a small open porch and a coal shed off to one side. There was a large heating stove with a metal jacket, but during cold weather the students kept their coats and overshoes on, because the heat all went up and out the top. When my father moved his family to the farm he gave them the acreage to build a new school. Some of the early school officers were J. Winters, W.T. Gordon, Charles Young, David Young, James Nelson, Frank Gordon and Alex Breitung. Early teachers were Laura and Lydia Young and W. Van Volkenburg. They received from \$25.00 to \$30.00 per month.

The Young Citizens League started statewide in South Dakota through the encouragement of M.M. Guhin. One of our first projects was choosing a name for our school. We chose Prairie Queen, but received notice from the County Superintendent that another school had that name. We then chose Prairie Rose, because we were proud of our school and decided it was like a rose setting on the prairie.

When F.C. Briesacher, R.H. Hoffman and Henry Breitung were on the school board the state was encouraging the county schools to become more modern. They set up a plan of \$125 per year State Aid to be paid to each school making improvements. After all improvements were made quite a large metal plaque was put on the outside of the school which said "Standard School". In the fall after we started using all the improvements my father, Mr. Breitung, came to school and spoke to the pupils. He told us that all the improvements were owned by the families in the school as they had all paid taxes to pay for them. How happy we could be about all our conveniences, especially the indoor toilets, and that we should all take care of everything and we could continue to get the \$125 per year for our school. Well, \$125 was a fortune in our minds - so needless to say - everyone cooperated."

*Below: Prarie Rose School.*



*Above: By Posts: Arnold Briesacher, Clifford Bryngelson, Aston Krause, Victor Hoffman.*

*Sitting: Everett Bryngelson, Doris Breitung, Delle Bryngelson, Sophie Reihe, Lucille Hoffman, Robert Briesacher.*

*Bottom: Roy Briesacher, Esther Krause, Margaret Odland and Ruth McKee.*

### School District #57 Glenwood Township

The first record of any school in session in District #57 was in 1886. The school was located on Section eight in the corner of the northwest quarter.

The following teachers taught from 1886 to 1890; Lizzie Keene, Frankie Babcock, B.J. Buckland, Grace Enos, Carrie Ward, Ida Shampino, and Franc Herrick.

Records are missing from 1905 to 1914, but teachers were David Gould, Gertie Pederson, Jennie Fawkes, Mary Kerr, Bessie Wells, Alice Pettyjohn, Anna Schweinfurt, Neva Hunt, and Sarah Quinlan.

A new school house was built on this same location in 1914. Jacob Jibben purchased the old school house and moved it one mile east and one and a half miles south to his land. The new school house was considered a proud and commendable addition to the community, having a cistern and pump for washing facilities; also chemical toilets, a large school room, and clockroom - hall.

From 1919-1921 there were 39 pupils attending. In 1926 the district voted to move the school house one mile east and one-half mile south to a better, more centralized location.

Teachers during the years 1914-1968 were Florence Branick, Gloria Gordan, Jennie Winrow, Marian Inlagen, Bertha Heaton, Mrs. Lula Andersen, Hazel Hubbs, Tossie Kerr, E.R. Hoy, Frances Moran, Amy Haugland, Hazelle Collins, Ethel Kerr, Mildred Myree Mork, Lucille Harding, Vera Reihe, Katherine McLain, Joyce Anderson, Shirley Smith, Milford Waldon, Hilda Beninga, Shirley Clark, Mrs. Leila Kruse, Mrs. Betty Engebretson, Mrs. Alyce Knopp, N. Shelsta, Mrs. Dorothy Jensen, Mrs. Edna Lage, Mrs. Mary Hergenroder and Mrs. Lavonne Kjelden.

One July 4th during the '60s, the school house was struck by lightning and burned. A vacant school house from east of Gary was purchased and moved onto a foundation of cement blocks. The school board had a busy summer going to vacant school houses and sales to buy books and supplies so the school could be in session by September. School continued until 1968 when rural schools were forced to consolidate.

Compiled by Mrs. Nick Jacobson with assistance from Mrs. Bertha Cole and Mrs. Lillian Sherburne



1919-1920 when Bertha Heaton Cole taught School District #57. Some of the pupils are listed: Bertha at right of Wayne Crocker, with, I believe, Virgil Lytle on his shoulders standing in front of the main door.

## Young America (Magadanz) School District #59 Lowe Township

The original site of the school was between Sections five and eight of Lowe Township. Some of the families that attended were Tasslers, Breitung, Knoltons and Washburns. Near this school there was a community watering spring. During the storm of 1888 the Tassler family, who lived near by, had their cattle there for water when the storm hit. They managed to put their cattle in the school house and with the heat and milk from the cows they survived.

The school house was eventually moved to the northeast corner of Section 18. Later it was sold to Fred Beckman and is still in use by William Beckman. One of the teachers for the district was Angie Dahlby, who married Hugo Magedanz in 1917. The new school served until 1963 when the district consolidated. It was then moved to the Grant-Duel site at Revillo and used until the new school was built.

Early school board members were A. Potter, W.S. Hall, J.R. Mc Curry, J.H. Chrisman, C.M. Hallock and T.J. Tassler. Early teachers included: Mary Jones, Rebecca Radford, and Maude Sumorack. Salaries ranged from \$25.00 to \$30.00 per month.

Teachers from 1933 to 1963 were Marie Meyer, Eileen Ensteness, Alice Mae Bork, C. Halstenson, Anna Marie Paulson, Julia Stevens, Alice Mulder, Marjorie Larson, Jean Dixon, Ruth Sherman, Lyla Schmidt, Treva Jean Hamann, J. Foss, Mrs. Fred Randgaard, Mrs. J. B. Cronin, V. Djonne, Mrs. Muriel Selgeby, and Marla Moore.

These school board members served between 1902 and 1931, Cornelius Breitung, M.J. Kelly, J. Kelly, G.R. Tassler, H. Magedanz, S.R. Hiltz, S. Burroughs, F. Kelly, O. Breitung, Mrs. J. Kelly, Senior, G. Beckman, F. Beckman, and H. Breitung.

## School District #61 Glenwood Township

In 1882 the people of District #61 made plans to build a school. The first school house was 20 by 20 feet with a lean-to for coat room and coal shed. It was built by W. Lightfoot and John Shaw in 1883 and was used until 1927. E.A. Allinson and wife Myrtle sold one acre of land to the school for \$1.00 in 1908. It was to belong to the district as long as the land was used for school purposes. Mrs. Ann Blirsilen was the first teacher in this district.

In those years they had all grades through the eighth, with an average of 15 to 20 students. Salaries ranged from \$30 to \$50 monthly.

In 1927 a new school house was built by Harry Gage of Gary. It was used until the district closed in 1949. The district was very proud of its new school. When Edith Lansing became acquainted with the school in 1928 it looked much as it does now. It had a full basement, coal furnace and telephone, also several kerosene lamps with brackets and reflectors and a hand bell.

The old school was moved one-half mile north and one-half east and made into a home by the Hans Ness family. Neither the old or new school had a bell on top. An organ which was refinished by the Green Thumb workers is still in working order. This organ is over 100 years old and was given to the school district by Mrs. Allinson.

After the district closed they consolidated with the Gary Independent School district #1. In 1970 the building was moved to the Gary Park. Two years later the school was given to the Gary Historical Association by the City of Gary, and it was repaired and refinished. The renovating work was done by the Green Thumb workers in 1974. Presently it is used as an historical school building.

Teachers who served were Mrs. Rose, Myrtle Kinjon, Alma Wood, Lattie McKee, Henrietta Herrick, I. Meadowcraft, Anna Rowe, Mary Kerr, Lillie Jensen, Myrtle Taylor, Lottie Herchill, Pearl Jensen, Blanche Bailey, S.F. Bereman, Edith Hindman, C.R. Hoy, Bessie Abrahamson, Ethel Kerr, Shara Bereman, Ada Warnes, Edith Lansing Cole, Groyneth Smith, Margaret Cochrane, Mildred Myree Mork, Mary Harkins, Olive Risdahl, Mary McLain, May Vonne Jackson, and Arlene Saltee Norman.

## Little Brook School District #63 Portland Township

Many called District #63 the Sharp School because Orvie Sharp, who started the school there in 1900 still lives only half a mile from where the school house stood. Charles Sharp, Orvie's father, loaned the land to the district to be used as long as the school existed. When the school and district dissolved the land went back to the estate. The Game, Fish and Parks Department bought the land and burned the school house down. Area residents were very much disturbed, as it was the first school in Portland township and was an historical landmark. It had saved lives of stranded motorists who found shelter in the abandoned school which was close to the road. They burned books to keep warm in 20 degree below zero weather.

Birdelle Sharp, a student in 1903, came back years later as a teacher. Teaching wages in 1898 were \$28 a month.

Early board members were Charles Sharp, Ben F. Roe, Lorenz Beyer, Adolph Iverson, Porter Davison, E.F. Wood, Mrs. Lottie Sharp, and Patrick Creeden.

Teachers were Alice Huffman, Elsie Laechelt, Nellie Goddard, B.F. Roe, Alberta McDevilt, P.A. Turbak, Elinor Butler, Birdille Sharp, Jamelle Skelly, Nettie Johnson, Ruby Mitchell, Soren Drake, R. Ryder, Laura Guernsey, M. Joy Knight, M.M. Stoddard, AlVina Preuss, Phyllis Manayer, Rosalind Murphy, Iva Haitzma, Beverly Ahre, Florence Spanton, Grace Sherman, Estelle Dailey, Beatrice Beninga and Ardelle Benson. The school closed in 1947.

## Sunny Slope School District #65 Grange Township

Sunny Slope District was organized in the 1880's. At first the school was in session about three months a year. When I attended, there was school only two months, which later expanded to seven. It was changed to eight months about 1930.

The new school house was built in 1926 and was used until 1954 when there were no longer enough pupils to continue. It is now a part of the Estelline School District.

Hugh R. Watt

## School District #67

School District #67 was located three miles east of Bemis. There was school for one year before the school house was built, with Susan Wright the teacher. In 1893, the first teacher in the school building was Julia Keenan, who received a monthly salary of \$30. Members of the school board were Pardon Cook, L.E. Calkins and S.E. Cook.

The length of the school terms varied - at first three months in the spring and three in the fall. In the early 1900's it was an eight month term and later nine months.

The early teacher's salary was \$27 a month. In 1945 it was \$96 and by 1960 was up to \$250. Fuel, coal and kindling were hauled to the school house for \$1.90 a load. The old pot bellied stoves served well to keep the building warm. It required extra work from the teachers and maybe a few of the older children to keep it going. The teacher would bank the fire so that it wouldn't go out over night, and get to school early enough so the building would be warmed when the children started coming. The school was given a complete cleaning for \$1. In 1897 insurance for the school and its contents was \$350 for five years.

Some of the early teachers were Sterling King, Addie Goddard and C. Mayne Knight. No school was held in January and February.

At the turn of the century, Hattie Washburn taught, followed by Laura Fulton, Fanny Steer and Nelli Goddard. David Peterson was hauling coal and kindling for \$3.50. The salary was \$40 a month when Molly Mitchel and Nellie Ettienne tauht in the early 1900's.

About 1910 a new floor was put in the school house and the barn was built. Teachers were Sadie Doyle, Bessie Doyle, Jessie Roe, Marcella Hand, Edna Prange, Esther Webb, Marguerite O'Conner, Grace Mitchell, Lila Johnson, J.C. Gjertvig, Mrs. George M. Drake and Edythe Weiderich.

In 1922 there were 25 students in the 18 by 22 foot building. There were no busses to transport the children in the early days. Some of them walked some distance. In bad weather they were brought by team and sleigh by their fathers. There was always a Christmas program given before the Christmas vacation started. Many who did not have children in school would come for this event. A basket social was held every year too. The ladies would make pretty baskets and fill them with goodies. These were auctioned off and the men would be the bidders, eating lunch with the lady whose basket he purchased.

Later teachers were Gertrude Ruesing, Frona Mitchell, Myrtle Ashbough, Susy Broksieck, Ione Sievert, Elsie Jellis, Ione Walkins, Ruth Sherman, Treva Jean Hamann, Bendia Kellhoff, Ida May Rhody, Viola Neal Annabel Schuchard, Rose Hefferman, Mamie Heyn, Berdine Boersma, Ruth Holt and Donna Marie Swenson.

By 1962 the attendance had dropped to only four pupils who were transported to the Goodwin School. In 1966 the district consolidated with the Goodwin District and the property was sold at public auction. The school building is now the township hall, with some of the original furniture still in the building. The barn was sold to Paul Siegfried.

## School District #68 Lowe Township

In the beginning, School District 68 was included in the Lone Tree Lake School District #31. The early teachers for that district, which was organized in 1882 were Luella Brown, Eva Doush, Lizzie Eakins, Hattie Thompson, J.H. Sturges, Grace Envs, Rose Millen, Nettie Wynne, Lilla Harkins, A.H. Kenyon and Mary Johnson. Early salaries ranged from \$24 to \$35. The last teacher for District 31 was Julia Stevens.

In the fall of 1917 the new school district #68 was ready to accept pupils. The teacher was Viola Hoffman. The land for the school had been donated by the Mulders who were owners of the land where it was placed.

Other teachers for District #68 were Lydia Meinbery, Mabel Anderson, Berdine Miller, Dora DePeel, Faye Hardie, Virgie Reich, Ruby Smith, Ethel Kerr, Doris Hanson, Olga Pederson, Alfred Sorenson, Lucille Gordon, Gladys Cummins, Lorraine Wells, Donna Ihrke, Olga Triebwasser, Margaret Quick, Jeanette Limberg, Mrs. Harold Kruse, Darlene Will, Marilyn Ivenson, Mrs. Donald Ingalls and Alyce Knopp.

## Altruria School District #69

The Altruria School was built in 1896, on the south side of the valley, across from where Diekmans now live. The first teacher was Alice Jennings, a cousin of Alice Rose (Woolworth), who had come to visit Alice's people and was persuaded to stay and teach. There were 14 pupils in that first enrollment. They included: three Bitneys, four Loucks, three Roses, two Lawrence boys and two Flynn boys.

The school house was moved to the location it now occupies, about 1900, so as to be more centrally located. The Wiswall family moved into the district that year with six children. About 1906 the five Rose children transferred from a neighboring school, because it was too far away for small children to walk.

School was held without a break for 73 years. On October 11, 1969, the building was sold to Earl Greuner, because of reorganization laws which prevented country schools from operating any longer. The place was very well kept up and served its purpose admirably. Everyone in the district, as well as those of us who had spent many happy years there as pupils or teachers, were sorry to see it closed.

Mrs. Adolph Knutson

## Snow Mound School District #70 Scandinavia Township

District #70 was organized in 1898, one mile west of the Wood Lake Church and one-half mile south, in Section 12. The land was owned by O.L. Jorgenson. It was very flat ground and had no trees; no wonder it was called Snow Mound.

A school board was chosen on June 18, 1898 for this newly organized school. They were Christ Jacobson, B.J. Jorgenson and Christian J. Peterson.

The school was closed in the early '40s and children were either bussed to Astoria or went to District five. The building was bought by Floyd Hicks, a John Deere dealer at Astoria, and was moved into Astoria. It is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Pearson.

## Clover Hill School District #72 Portland Township

District #72 was the most recent school in Portland Township. In 1916 Jim Ingalls spearheaded the organization of the new district. Albert Peterson donated the acre of land. The first school year of 1917-1918, the officers were George Tribitt, chairman, Ben F. Roe, clerk and A.H. Peterson, treasurer. Other early officers were Carl Ihrke, Lucy Roe, Clarence Tribitt, Gust Erickson and J. H. Ingalls. The first teacher was Gladys Roe. Other early teachers includ-



**Clover Hill School, teacher Mrs. Allinson 1916 pupils with their teacher.**  
*The Carl Ihrke and William Ihrke children attended here.*

ed Eva Allinson, Martha McClard, Madelyn Warner, Alice Larson, Avice Mitchell, Ethel Kerr, Ruth Schaefer, Birdie Artus, Mrs. Ina Crocker, Edith Selchert, Marjorie Smith, Allis Eakins, Helen D. Nilsson, Gladys Cummins, Marie Lake, Olga C. Gorder, Stella Lenander, Betty Nagelhout, Elaine Engebretson, Margaret Schuchard, Verlie Olson, Phyllis Smith, Donald B. Wartenbee, Mrs. Louis Erickson, Mary Heidicker, Carol Hofman and Anna Brix. The school closed in 1962 when it was consolidated with Clear Lake.

### Fairview School District #73

Fairview School was located on the east end of Section two. The land for it was donated by Elvinis Peterson in 1921 with the stipulation that the land be returned to the owner when the school was no longer in use. A school house was constructed in 1922 and the first year of school was held that year. Fairview was a branch of Lone Tree Lake school, as the farmers felt it necessary to build another school due to the number of pupils and the distance some of them had to travel.

C.C. Peterson, Elvinis Peterson and Jens Pederson were the first members of the school board. The first teacher of the school was Anna Peterson. Others included Alta Risdahl, Bertha Deck, Anna Dumke, Elvara Johnson, Grace Kelly, Anna Heideman, Edna Peterson, Mae Madsen and Cora Eidem. The school was closed in 1934 for lack of students but reopened in 1952. Teachers for the next 15 years of operation were Mary Heidecker, Mrs. Alex Troop, Alice Knopp, Carol Hofman, Ardene Brix, Mrs. Fred Randgaard, Mrs. Kathryn Jensen, Mary Hergenroder, LaVonne Kjelden and Mavis Stoltenberg.

The school was closed again in 1967 and the district disbanded. Part of the district went to Clear Lake and part to Gary, due to the consolidation of rural and town schools.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin W. Peterson

## Young Citizens League

The idea of a Little Citizens League originated with Anna Sheldland Williams, a Minnesota teacher. She suggested the organization to M.M. Guhin in 1912 when he was County Superintendent of Brown County, South Dakota. In 1925 the Young Citizens League was adopted as a state-wide project in South Dakota. Under the direction of Mr. Guhin and enthusiastic County Superintendents the Young Citizens League made remarkable progress.

In the spring of each year a state convention composed of delegates (limit three) selected from each county, met in Pierre, the Capital City of South Dakota, for a three-day session. It was traditional that the Governor and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction speak to the delegates.

The Young Citizens League helped children to learn to govern themselves, assume responsibility, conduct meetings, develop personality and talents, and become courteous, tactful, and considerate.

Every rural school belonged to the Young Citizens League. The children conducted their own meetings. When it came to voting on any decision, they would put their heads on the desks and cover their eyes before raising the hands to vote.

The contest to secure a suitable song for the Young Citizens League was made possible by two South Dakota Citizens and fifty dollars in gold was given for the prize winning words by Guy Harvey of Yankton, South Dakota and fifty dollars in gold for the prize winning melody by W.R. Larson, Sioux, Falls.

Y. C. L. March Song

O, up from every valley, And down from every crest,  
 We come, thy loyal children, By all thy favors blest,  
 To pledge our firm Allegiance,  
 America to thee,  
 Thy guardians of tomorrow,  
 By mountain, plain and sea.

In all the winds of heaven, there breathes a patriot's creed,  
 Clean hearts and minds and bodies, Serve best our Country's need,

That creed we hold America,  
 Enshrined in heart and soul;  
 A deeper sense of duty  
 And better lives our goal.

Chorus — We march and we sing; our voices ring;

Young citizens are we;


Leagued in a host whose watchwords are

Youth, courage, loyalty.

Hailing our nation's banner, afloat in the sunlit sky,

Which thru hopes and fears, thru future years,

We will hold evermore on high.

SOUTH  DAKOTA

## YOUNG CITIZENS LEAGUE

WHEREAS, the pupils of the Stroup School in  
 School District No. 11, Deuel County,  
 are faithfully discharging the duties as Young Citizens, as set forth in the Constitution  
 and By-Laws of the South Dakota Young Citizens League;

THEREFORE, the aforesaid School is granted this perpetual

**CHARTER**

The local organization to be known as \_\_\_\_\_  
 League No. \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ County.  
 Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_  
 at \_\_\_\_\_, South Dakota.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

\_\_\_\_\_  
State Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Supt. of Schools, Ex-Officio County Chairman